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INVENTORY OF TOWN AND CITY ARCHIVES OF MASSACHUSETTS

NUMBER 11. NORFOLK COUNTY
VOLUME XI. HOLBROOK

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THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
1940

INVENTORY OF CITY AND TOWN ARCHIVES

OF MASSACHUSETTS

No. 11 Norfolk County

Vol. XI. Holbrook

Prepared by
The Historical Records Survey
Division of Community Service Programs
Work Projects Administration

* * * * *

The Historical Records Survey
Boston, Massachusetts
1941

The Historical Records Survey Program

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SPONSOR OF THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY PROJECT IN MASSACHUSETTS

Frederic W. Cook,	Secretary of the Commonwealth

PREFACE

By authority of a Presidential Letter, the Historical Records Survey was established in January, 1936, under the national direction of Dr. Luther H. Evans, as a federally sponsored project of the Work Projects Administration. Since August 31, 1939, the sponsorship of the Massachusetts unit of the survey has been undertaken by Frederic W. Cook, Secretary of the Commonwealth. Since March, 1940 the individual state projects of the Historical Records Survey have been under the national direction of Sargent B. Child, who, as field representative of Dr. Evans, had had technical supervision of the work of the survey in New England from its inception. The present writer has been in direct charge of the project in Massachusetts from August 1936 to September 1940 when he was succeeded by Aron S. Gilmartin.

The purpose of the project is to survey, preserve and render accessible historical source materials of all kinds. Its work has fallen naturally into the following main divisions: public records, private manuscripts, church records, early American imprints, historical portraits and newspapers. Practically all historical material falls under one or another of these divisions. In bringing this material under control certain techniques have been found practicable, depending on the nature of the subject matter, and using variously the methods of the inventory, the guide, the calendar, the check list or the index in the publication of the result. For public records, church records and portraits, the method of the inventory has worked best; for historical manuscripts, the guide or, in rare cases where the material was of unusual importance, the calendar; for imprints, the check list; for newspaper and court records, the index; and so on.

The actual work of gathering information concerning historical materials at their place of storage or custody has in most cases been preceded by a most necessary and, for both the custodian and posterity, important task, that of putting records in order; of cleaning, dusting, refiling, and treating them; and, in short, doing everything possible to ensure their preservation. This function of the project, often performed by its workers under almost indescribable conditions of dust, filth, dampness, poor ventilation, and even vermin may well be regarded by future generations as a most important contribution of the survey.

Scarcely less important, however, are the editorial processes to which all field information must be subjected before publication. Here gaps and inadequacies are spotted, inconsistencies reconciled, and order brought out of chaos. In the field of public records it has been found necessary not only to sketch briefly the history of the county or town and its government but also to preface the inventory of each subordinate office or institution with an outline of its development, based upon its own records or upon statutory or other sources. In the inventories of

church records, similarly, the preparation of the history of each church constitutes a task equally arduous with that of locating and listing its records. In Massachusetts two broader works have also been undertaken. The general historical background, statutory origin and functioning of county, city, or town offices have been studied with a view to providing satisfactory accounts of the development of county and municipal government generally. These latter undertakings are now happily nearing completion.

In the field of county records the surveys of eight of the fourteen counties of Massachusetts are nearing completion. In that of municipal records, approximately sixty of 350 cities and towns have been covered to date including several of the more populous. Editorial work is now also proceeding on six of an estimated ten volumes of the inventory of the records of the city of Boston. Some 200 manuscript depositories, large and small, have been surveyed and a preliminary guide to them published. An inventory of the records of Universalist churches in Massachusetts will soon be published, and field work is being carried on in other denominations, particularly in the Unitarian, Congregational, Baptist, and Jewish bodies. A catalogue of portraits painted before 1825 in Massachusetts has been published and editorial work is proceeding on similar listings for the other New England states and New York State. A listing of the publications of the Massachusetts unit of the survey follows at the end of this volume.

The inventory of the town archives of Holbrook is the eleventh in the series of such inventories covering the towns of Norfolk County. The field work as well as the historical research for this volume were done by William J. McMaugh. The historical sketch, the sketch of governmental development and the individual office sketches were prepared by Martin D. Richardson. Both the field work and the preparation of these sketches was done under the direction of Paul A. Baker, supervisor of the Survey in Norfolk, Middlesex, and Essex Counties. The inventory was edited and prepared for publication by Morris I. Wartow assisted by Lawrence Lehane. The state's archives relating to Holbrook were listed by Joseph R. Wyckoff. Final editing was given the volume by the present writer and the Washington office of the survey. The index was prepared under the direction of Leon Rythor. The map, chart of government and cover design were prepared by William Rabinowich. This, and the multilithing, which was done by Amedeo Tombion, were under the supervision of Ralph Kahn.

The Survey is indebted to the town officials of Holbrook for their cooperation and to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Frederic W. Cook, without whose sponsorship this project would not be possible.

Carl J. Wennerblad
State Supervisor of Research
and Records Projects

FOREWORD

The Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Massachusetts is one of a number of bibliographies of historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on the Historical Records Survey of the Work Projects Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the Archives of Holbrook in Norfolk County, is volume XI of number 11 of the Massachusetts series.

The Historical Records Survey was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by town officials, and also the needs of lawyers, business men and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalogue for printed sources.

The inventories produced by the Historical Records Survey attempt to do more than give merely a list of records--they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and city inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of the Historical Records Survey, even in a single town, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey directed by Luther H. Evans from its inception in January 1936 to March 1, 1940 when he was succeeded by Sargent B. Child formerly National Field Supervisor. It operates as a nation-wide project in the Division of Professional and Service Projects, of which Mrs. Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

Howard O. Hunter
Acting Commissioner of Work
Projects Administration

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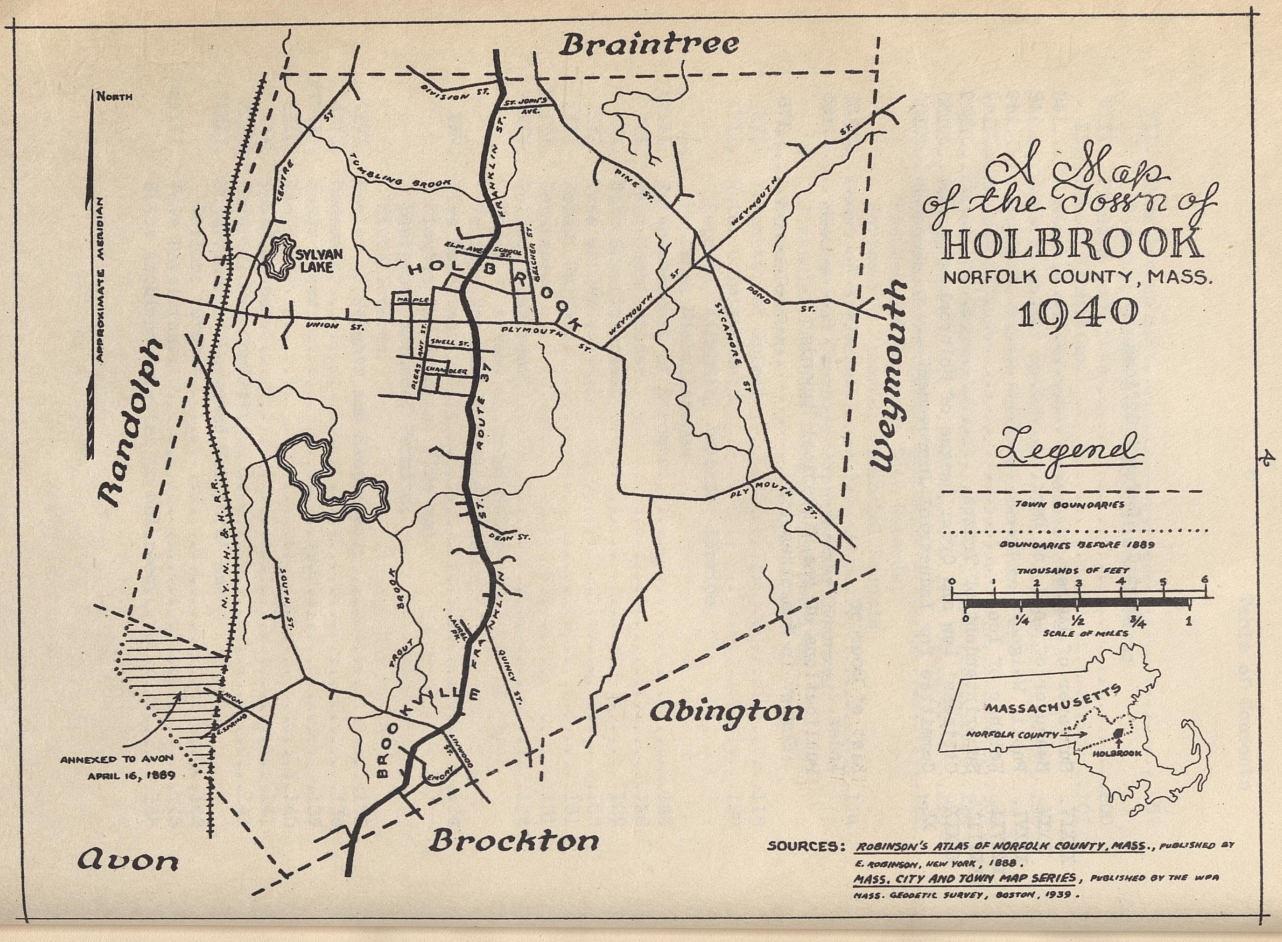

SOURCES: ROBINSON'S ATLAS OF NORFOLK COUNTY, MASS., PUBLISHED BY E. ROBINSON, NEW YORK, 1888.
MASS. CITY AND TOWN MAP SERIES, PUBLISHED BY THE WPA MASS. GEODETIC SURVEY, BOSTON, 1939.

E. ROBINSON, NEW YORK, 1888.
MASS. CITY AND TOWN MAP SERIES, PUBLISHED BY THE WPA
MASS. GEODETIC SURVEY, BOSTON, 1939.

PART A. HOLBROOK AND ITS RECORDS SYSTEM

Historical Sketch

Incorporated in 1872, Holbrook is one of the younger Massachusetts towns. Its history, however, is inseparably linked with that of Braintree, Quincy, and Randolph, the three communities which constituted the Braintree settlement which was authorized by the General Court in 1640.[1]

The Braintree area was first settled in 1625, when a small group of pioneers under Captain Wollaston made their homes in what is now Quincy. The settlement was called Mt. Wollaston at first; it is suggested that the name of Braintree was taken later because of the fact that a number of followers of Rev. Thomas Hooker settling in the section had formerly lived in Braintree, England, near Mr. Hooker's parish.[2]

Braintree eventually divided into three precincts: The North Precinct which later became Quincy; the Middle Precinct, now Braintree; and the South Precinct, which became Randolph and out of which Holbrook was subsequently formed. Many of the town's major industries as well as the larger number of settlers were located in the northern section. Yet as early as the beginning of the eighteenth century the population of the southern part of the town had grown sufficiently to warrant the building of a second meetinghouse.[3] In 1706 it had been voted that the south and north sections should be separate congregations.[4] This separation was recognized by the General Court in 1708, when it formally confirmed the division into two precincts.[5] Although precinct organization progressed to the point of electing a moderator, clerk, treasurer, and assessors,[6]

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1. Massachusetts General Court, Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, 1628-1686, Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, ed., 5 vols. in 6, Boston, William White, 1853-1854; I, p. 291. Hereafter cited as Colonial Records.

2. The Historical Records Survey, "Braintree Historical Sketch" in A Brief History of the Town of Braintree, compiled and written for the Braintree Tercentenary Committee, Marion Sophia Arnold, ed.; Boston, Thomas Todd Co., 1940; p. 8.

3. Braintree Town Records, 1640-1940, 12 vols., mss., in office of Town Clerk, Braintree Town Hall; I, p. 42, Aug. 15, 1695. Hereafter cited as Braintree Town Records.

4. Ibid., I, p. 91, Nov. 25, 1706

5. Massachusetts General Court, Acts and Resolves, Public and Private, of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, 1692-1780, 21 vols., Boston, 1869-1922; XXI, p. 768; Braintree Town Records, I, p. 101, Nov. 5, 1708. Hereafter the acts and resolves for this period are cited as Province Acts and Resolves.

6. The Book of Records of the North Precinct in Braintree, 1708-1766, ms., in Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston.

these officers functioned almost entirely in church matters. But at this time even the conduct of town affairs rested principally in the hands of the elders of the churches. In 1727 a petition was presented to the General Court asking that the South Precinct be further divided into two parts in view of the fact that there were some forty families in the southern part of that section.[1] The answer of the court to this petition was to order the citizens to assemble and choose precinct officers [2] Parish affairs engaged most of the attention of the officers of the new precinct; there is record, however, of local action concerning school matters, and for a number of years the section maintained a school committee.[3] Meanwhile the movement in favor of complete autonomy continued to grow in both sections. After a temporary setback during the Revolution the efforts were resumed, and in 1792 the North Precinct was granted formal incorporation as the town of Quincy.[4] A year later the South Precinct was incorporated as the town of Randolph.[5]

The section that became Holbrook was known at the time of its incorporation in 1872 as 'East Randolph.' Long before either of the precincts separated from Braintree, however, this section had played an important part in the history of the parent community. Much of this importance came from the fact that since 1642 Braintree had been one of the sites of the early iron industry in America. The discovery by Thomas Dexter of a deposit of bog-ore at Hammersmith in what is now Saugus, Massachusetts, led to the formation in England of a "Company of Undertakers for the Iron Works" in 1642. Richard Leader was appointed agent and sent to Boston together with a number of skilled workers under the direction of Joseph Jenks as master mechanic. John Winthrop, Jr., son of the Governor, and himself later Governor of Connecticut became interested in the project and was doubtless instrumental in securing favorable legislation for the undertakers, of whom he eventually became the leader.[6] A series of grants by the General Court gave the company a twenty-one-year monopoly; exemption from public charges and taxes; grants three miles square of unappropriated lands in the places where the works

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1. Braintree Town Records, I, p. 168, June 12, 1727; Massachusetts Secretary of State, Massachusetts Archives, 417 vols. in 418 mss., also various unbound mss. in folders, XI, pp. 477-478.

2. Province Acts and Resolves, XI, p. 256; Massachusetts Archives, XI, p. 477A

3. Braintree Town Records, II, passim

4. Massachusetts General Court, Acts and Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1780-1805, 13 vols., Boston, 1890-1898; 1790-91, chap. 36. Hereafter cited as Acts and Laws. Also Braintree Town Records, III, p. 108, March 13, 1792

5. Acts and Laws, 1792-93, chap. 49

6. Herbert C. Keith and Charles Rufus Harte, Early Iron Industry of Connecticut, pamphlet reprinted from Fifty-first Annual Report of the Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers, Inc., Presented at New Haven, February 20, 1935, New Haven, Mack and Noel, Printers, no date, p. 3.

were to be located; the right to take ore, lumber, and other natural resources as needed from unappropriated lands and, by condemnation proceedings, from appropriated lands, and "to make ponds, wayes or water courses therein"; and finally the exemption of their workmen from "trainings and watchings."[1] The following May the court, declaring that "... ye iron worke is very successful (both in ye richness of ye ore & ye goodness of ye iron)...", commended the project to those in the colony who had spare funds to invest, and even permitted small investors to pool their funds, "... wch wilbe accepted in money, beavers, wheate, coales, or any such comodities as will satisfy ye workemen...."[2] It was John Winthrop, Jr., who, after surveying the coast for suitable locations, selected Braintree as the site of the second ironworks in the colony. The plants at Braintree and Hammersmith were similar in their essential principals. A river location was necessary in order that power generated by a water wheel might be used to create a forced draught for the furnace. "The raw material was bog-ore; the fuel, charcoal; and the flux, oyster shells. The molten iron was drawn direct from the blast furnace into V-shaped trenches in the sand of the casting-floor, producing long triangular bars which were designated as "sowes." Small castings were made from remelted sowes; the iron was wrought in the adjacent bloomery forge...."[3] In its early years the industry was aided by an unexpected supply of cheap labor. In 1651 Oliver Cromwell deported 272 Scottish prisoners taken at the Battle of Dunbar to be set to work in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. It is believed that most of these were assigned to iron forges near Boston, and that the Braintree Iron Works was fortunate enough to secure a great many of them.[4] Workmen trained at Braintree also helped to establish the Taunton ironworks where operations commenced in 1656.[5] That even a monopoly industry of the seventeenth century in a virgin country hungry for its products had its unemployment problem is demonstrated by a Braintree petition to the General Court in 1659 for aid in giving poor relief to employees of the ironworks.[6]

One writer places at least a part of the Iron Works Grant as being bounded to the "East on the land of Captain John Holbrook (which was a part of said land); west on Boston Common lands; north, part on the

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1. Colonial Records, II, pp. 61, 82, 125, 185. The most comprehensive grants were those of November 13, 1644, and October 1, 1645, pp. 82 and 125, respectively.
2. Ibid., pp. 103-104
3. Keith and Harte, op cit., p. 5
4. Suffolk Registry of Deeds, Transcribed Property Records; Book I, p. 5, May 14, 1652. At Suffolk County Court House, Boston.
5. Ruth A. Crossman, in Tercentenary of Taunton, Massachusetts, 1639-1939, published by the Taunton Tercentenary Committee, Inc., Taunton, C. A. Hack and Son, Inc., 1939, p. 7.
6. Colonial Records, IV, pp. 376-377

Manaticut River, part on land of John Hull,Esq.; south on Boston Commons."[1] Another authority makes the claim that:-

> "The land now comprising the town of Holbrook was originally a portion of two separate parcels, the Iron Works Grant and the 'Purchase land'.... This tract included roughly that portion of the town lying East of a line 500 feet west of Franklin Street and north of a line 1,000 feet north of Plymouth Street. Its original boundary walls are nearly intact today and are still known as the walls of the Iron Works Line."[2]

The 'Purchase Land' referred to was also known as the "land beyond Cochato" which, until 1700, was a part of the Boston common lands, later purchased by Braintree and distributed to its freeholders.

Early in the nineteenth century the eastern section of Randolph began to evince the same desire for autonomy in church affairs which had been shown in the preceding century by the north and south precincts of Braintree. A petition of Bailey White and 79 other inhabitants of the eastern part of Randolph, citing both the difficulty of attending public worship, owing to the distances from the meetinghouses of Randolph and Braintree and the increase of population in the area, stated that the petitioners had already "purchased a valuable piece of ground, raised and covered the frame for a large and respectable meetinghouse" and requested therefore to be incorporated as a parish.[3] There followed the natural "remonstrances" of both the mother parishes. The Randolph parish, whose pastor was the Reverend Thaddius Pomeroy, appointed Samuel Bass its agent to oppose the movement and advanced as arguments not only that the petitioners were "encroaching upon our rights by seceding from their own recent engagements," but also that "we are now threatened with a new Baptist Meeting House within about half a mile of ours . . . which is calculated by its location to cut off and decoy away another numerous and respectable branch of our society "[4] The Braintree parish advanced

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1. William S. Patee, M.D., A History of Old Braintree and Quincy With a Sketch of Randolph and Holbrook, Quincy, 1878, Green and Prescott, p. 453

2. Walter Cushing Belcher, Insert in 1926 compilation of HOLBROOK TOWN REPORTS, 1872-1939, 10 vols., published annually by the town, variously bound. See entry 2. Hereafter cited as Annual Reports. From 1872 to 1892 annual reports cover the period from March 1 to Feb. 28, but have been cited by the year in which the report ended. From 1892 to date the annual reports have covered the calendar year.

3. Massachusetts Archives, folder marked "Acts of 1818, chap. 80." See entry 233.

4. Idem. See entry 234.

the argument of the vested interest:". . . doubts may arise in your Honors' minds and they do exist in the minds of your memorialists of the right under the constitution of consigning to the control and taxation of a newly formed society the property of any individual member belonging to one long established and from which he has no wish to be severed. . . . Our parish is greatly in debt and the contracts still remain unrescinded ... will your Honors leave upon the shoulders of a part, the burthens which all did once voluntarily assume?"[1] Apparently these arguments had little weight with the committee, for a few days later it reported favorably on the petition and both houses accepted the report. On February 15, 1818 the act incorporating "a body politic and religious society by the name of the East Parish, in Randolph" was passed.[2] There were 64 persons mentioned in the act of incorporation; included among the family names were a number that were to appear a half century later on the petition for incorporation of the east parish as a town. Belcher, Thayer, Whitcomb, French and others. The act specified that the new "body politic and religious society" could sue and be sued, was vested with all the powers and immunities of other religious societies in the Commonwealth, and was obligated to pay its proportion of all parochial assessments already levied by Randolph. It stipulated, also, that persons living in Randolph but within one mile of the new parish might attend meetings there should they state such desire in a given period of time.[3] A meetinghouse was built in the East Parish and a minister installed there on December 29, 1819.[4]

It was more than fifty years before the separation of the two sections became complete. There appears, however, to have been considerable effort to effect a separation as the east section grew in population and importance and as certain relations between the two areas became more burdensome to the residents of East Randolph. In hearings on the separation in 1872 a speaker alluded to the fact that one East Randolph resident claimed to have been working for the separation for forty years; others were said to have sought it for more than a quarter of a century.[5]

During this time residents of the East Parish had taken a prominent part in the town government of Randolph. For nearly 20 years one of the

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1. Massachusetts Archives, folder marked "Acts of 1818, chap. 80." See entry 235.

2. Massachusetts General Court, Private and Special Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1780-1911, 21 vols., Boston, various state printers and dates, V, 1818, ch. 80, pp. 292-294. See also entry 236.

3. Idem

4. History of Norfolk County, Massachusetts, D. Hamilton Hurd, ed., Philadelphia, 1884, J W. Lewis & Co., p. 430.

5. Argument of B. W. Harris in Opposition to a Division of the Town of Randolph, Before the Committee of the Legislature on Towns, Feb. 7, 1872, Boston, 1872, Rockwell and Churchill, p. 12.

East Randolph residents had been a member of the board of selectmen of Randolph;[1] others had served in the office for shorter terms. In 1848 there is record of a prudential school committee in each part of the town.[2] In some years there had been highway surveyors in various highway districts in the town, and as many as three East Randolph men had served at one time.[3] This representation did not seem to be satisfactory to the East Parish residents, however. At the hearings on the separation it was later argued that during this period the East Randolph representatives had been greatly outnumbered in the town meetings and that their vote was ineffective. East Randolph voters, it was pointed out, attended town meetings at great sacrifice because of the distance, only to feel that their voices would be weak and their desires overlooked.[4]

The movement for separation was intensified in 1867. That year two meetings were held in East Randolph to discuss the matter, although neither of them succeeded in reaching the point of making recommendations for a division.[5] Another meeting was held on Dec. 5, 1871, with a number of prominent residents in attendance. At this meeting it was decided with a few dissenting votes that "It is the sense of this meeting that that portion of Randolph lying east of the Old Colony Railroad should be set off from the old town and incorporated as a new town."[6] It is noteworthy concerning this 1871 meeting that, instead of being a loosely-gathered session, it was the result of a careful canvass of community sentiment; hence, when a second vote was called to adopt the resolution officially, dissent was almost totally lacking. As a result of this meeting a committee was selected to circulate petitions asking for separation, another named to solicit subscriptions of funds for necessary expenses and a third to arrange for the publication of proposed boundaries for the new town. A formal petition was later delivered to the General Court and to the town of Randolph, asking for the division.[7]

All of this activity had taken place between December 5th and 8th.

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1. Argument of B. W. Harris in Opposition to a Division of the Town of Randolph, Before the Committee of the Legislature on Towns, Feb. 7, 1872, Boston, 1872, Rockwell and Churchill, p. 21.

2. RANDOLPH TOWN REPORTS, 1842-1939, 14 vols., printed annually by the town, various printers, variously bound, in State Library, State House, Boston, 1849, p. 35.

3. Ibid., 1854-1855, pp. 11-21 incl.

4. Argument of Hon. Ellis W. Morton Before the Committee of the Legislature on Towns in Behalf of the Petitioners for an Act to Incorporate a Part of Randolph as a New Town, Boston, 1872, Alfred Mudge and Son, pp. 22, 23.

5. GENERAL RECORDS - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872-1940, 9 vols., mss., I, p. 6 et seq. See entry 27. Hereafter cited as Town Records.

6. Idem

7. Town Records, I, p. 6 et seq, Massachusetts Archives, folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61." See entry 237.

On December 9th another meeting was called and the citizens heard the proposal that E. N. Holbrook, the town's wealthiest resident, would make the new town a gift of $50,000 should the move to incorporate succeed; this gift would be made with the provision that half of the sum be used to build a town hall, $10,000 for a public library, and the balance for payment of public debt.[1] The name of E. N. Holbrook was an important one in the community. He was a member of the Holbrook family whose members had been active citizens, landowners, and manufacturers in the section since the early days of Braintree. At the age of 20 he had entered a shoe business as a partner with a capital of $1,000; a short time later he conducted the business alone.[2] At the time of the division of the two towns it was stated to the General Court that he and his family owned more than half of the taxable property in the East Parish.[3] He was not destined to see the incorporation of the town that bears his name; he died on February 5, 1872, a few days before the act of the General Court incorporating Holbrook as a town.[4]

The people of Randolph were not slow to reply to the Holbrook petition. A total of 705 Randolph inhabitants signed a petition dated January 16, 1872 claiming that their corporate and material interests would be lastingly injured by the division.[5] Even a group of 32 East Randolph residents protested the split.[6] Since the original petition for autonomy had been signed by only 15 persons, including E. N. Holbrook, the citizens favoring the movement bestirred themselves and gathered a total of 291 signatures in support.[7] Meanwhile the battle of petitions became merged in a more acrimonious struggle of mass meetings and public hearings.

In the town records of Holbrook it is reported that, during the fight to secure separation, the Citizens' Executive Committee met as often as four times a week, and that their efforts found support from citizens of both East Randolph and South Randolph.[8] This zeal, however, met an equally determined opposition in Randolph proper. On January 18, 1872, citizens of the latter town held a meeting in Stetson Hall to register their official protest against the separation. Of this meeting it was said that "never in the history of the town had Stetson Hall seen so many citizens of East Randolph".[9] "The meeting voted to appoint a committee to oppose the division of the town and instruct the representative

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1. Town Records, I, p. 6 et seq; Massachusetts Archives, folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61." See entry 237. Hurd, op. cit., p. 427
2. Hurd, op. cit., p. 428
3. Harris, op. cit., pp. 19, 33
4. Town Records, I, p. 6 et seq.
5. Idem Massachusetts Archives, folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61." See entry 238.
6. Idem See entry 239.
7. Idem See entry 240.
8. Town Records, I, p. 6 et seq.
9. Idem

(in the General Court) Ludovicus F. Wild, to carry out the expressed wish of the town or resign."[1] The action of Mr. Wild following this meeting is not mentioned in the report of the division prepared by the town of Holbrook later; it is noteworthy, however, that in the first slate of town officers elected in the new town in 1872, the name of Ludovicus Wild appears as one of the auditors.[2]

A dramatic climax in the fight came on January 24, 1872, when hearings began in the General Court on the petition for separation and more than a thousand residents of the two communities were present.[3] Of this number there were 305 proponents of the petition from East Randolph and over 700 opponents from Randolph.[4] Benjamin Winslow Harris represented the interests of Randolph and Ellis W. Morton appeared for the residents of East Randolph. A speaker referred to the hearing as one of the bitterest fights for separation ever brought to the court.[5]

The natural differences between the two settlements were brought out at the hearing. It was argued that in the past few years East Randolph had become a self-sufficient community, with its own businesses, a post office, a railroad station, a fire department within its proposed town limits, its own churches, a high school, and grade schools.[6] It was emphasized that the long and wide valley between the two towns furnished a natural geographical division in addition to the distance between the centers of community life, and that the coming of the railroad along the valley had not drawn the two communities any closer together. Morton argued, in addition, that the industrial compositions of the two settlements were not similar.[7] Other reasons given for the separation were the desire for more and better roads and schools, a tax rate which East Randolph proposed to set at $10 per $1,000 instead of the $20 rate existing in Randolph, and an opportunity for growth not felt possible as part of Randolph. Out of 339 voters in East Randolph, Mr. Morton told the court, 335 had become petitioners for separation.[8] He added that the new town as proposed would be 139th in population in the state and 172nd in taxable valuation, out of a total of more than 300 towns.[9]

The opposition presented by the Randolph spokesman was prolonged and vigorous. He denied that the valley represented a natural division between the settlements and stated that they had grown up at a distance

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1. Town Records, I, p. 6 et seq.
2. Ibid., p. 16
3. Ibid., p. 6
4. Idem
5. Morton, op. cit., p. 29
6. Ibid., p. 21
7. Morton, Harris, op. cit., passim
8. Morton, op. cit., p. 15
9. Ibid., pp. 18, 19

from each other only because one had built itself around the road from New Bedford to Boston, the Blue Hill Turnpike, while the other had centered about the 'ancient road to Braintree.'[1] In the matter of schools, Randolph presented figures to show that in the fiscal year ending in 1872 there had been in the town as a whole 1,018 scholars between five and fifteen years of age who had been educated at an average cost of $7.33 per pupil, while the 281 pupils east of the railroad had cost an average of $16.18 each. As regards roads, it was asserted that the 32.5 miles of roads repaired west of the railroad had cost an average of $55.78 per mile, whereas the 15.75 miles east of the railroad had cost an average of $111.51 per mile. The distance between the two centers of community life, 1.75 miles, could be conveniently covered, said Mr. Harris.[2]

Perhaps the bitterest part of the Randolph opposition to the division centered about the proposed gift of $50,000 by E. N. Holbrook. Mr. Harris in his argument charged that this gift had been made only upon condition that the town assume the name of the philanthropist, a point later hotly denied by Mr. Morton.[3] In the Randolph charges it was mentioned that the offer to name the town Holbrook in consideration of the gift had been made in secrecy in a railroad station by a 'carpetbagger' who had lived in East Randolph only a year.[4] This was also disputed, and it was stated in addition that, until he died, Mr. Holbrook did not know whether the town would really bear his name.[5]

The hearings continued for several days. In the report of the committee on towns, dated February 8, 1872, five members favored the plea for autonomy and two dissented.[6] The bill incorporating the new town finally passed the senate after three readings.[7] Desperate lobbying on both sides greeted the bill when it reached the house. A six-hour debate on the house floor took up all of the session of February 19th and a part of the 20th; a postponement was taken for still further debate to the 24th. When it passed favorably on that day, its opponents sought to secure a reconsideration, but finally retired in defeat on February 27th when both houses engrossed the measure.[8]

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1. Harris, op. cit., p. 4
2. Harris, p. 15 and appendices, pp. 33-35 incl.
3. Morton, op. cit., pp. 13-15 incl.
4. Harris, op. cit., p. 19; Morton, op. cit., pp. 13, 17
5. Morton, op. cit., pp. 13-15 incl.
6. Massachusetts Archives, folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61." See entry 237.
7. Town Records, I, p. 6 et seq.
8. Idem

The act of incorporation granted by the court gave Holbrook:

> "All of the territory now within the town of Randolph, in the county of Norfolk, comprised within the following limits, that is to say: beginning at the stone monument in the line between the said Randolph and town of Braintree, on the easterly side of Tumbling Brook; thence, taking a south-westerly course, in a straight line, to a point six feet westerly from the northwesterly corner in range of the northerly side of the so-called East Randolph station house of the Old Colony and Newport Railroad Company; thence, the same or other south-westerly course to a point on the town line dividing Randolph and Stoughton, one hundred and fourteen rods southeasterly from the town stone monument in said last mentioned dividing line, at the southerly terminus of Main Street in said Randolph; thence, southeasterly, northeasterly, northerly and westerly as the present dividing line between said Randolph and Stoughton, North Bridgewater, Abington, Weymouth and Braintree runs, to the first-mentioned bounds ... and the said town of Holbrook is hereby invested with all of the powers, privileges, rights and immunities, and is subject to all the duties and requisitions to which other towns are entitled and subjected by the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth."[1]

The act of incorporation stipulated that the inhabitants of the new town must pay to Randolph all arrears of taxes assessed upon them by Randolph before the incorporation. The two towns were made jointly responsible for the care of paupers under certain statutory conditions and it was provided that corporate property should be divided between the two towns on a basis of the valuation on May 1, 1871. Holbrook remained a part of the second congressional district, the second councillor district, the third Norfolk senatorial district and the ninth Norfolk representative district.[2] Thus, over 200 years after the settlement of Mt. Wollaston and almost a century after the incorporation of Randolph, the East Parish became the corporate town of Holbrook.

The task of setting up a town government was begun at once. A town meeting was called for March 11, 1872, with Zenas French, justice of the peace for Norfolk County, acting as temporary presiding officer.[3] At this meeting the election of a slate of town officers was the important item of business. Lemuel Whitcomb, who had once served as selectman in

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1. Acts and Resolves of the General Court of Massachusetts, 1839-1914, 78 vols., including 2 for special sessions, Boston, 1842-1914; Acts, 1872, chap. 61. Hereafter cited as Acts or Resolves.
2. Idem
3. Town Records, I, p. 6 et seq.

Randolph,[1] was elected moderator by unanimous vote. The meeting then elected a town clerk, a treasurer, three selectmen who were also named as assessors and overseers of the poor, three members of the school committee, constables, fence viewers, three auditors, six field drivers, measurers of wood and bark, and a surveyor of lumber. It was voted to place the appointment of surveyors of the highways in the hands of the selectmen.[2] After the election the meeting adjourned to March 21.

At the adjourned session the question of support of the schools received first consideration; it was voted to raise $4,100 for this purpose immediately and an added sum for repairs to the schools. A total of $4,700 was voted for general town expenses and $1,300 for roads and highways. The business of the meeting covered a wide and comparatively complete range for a town as new as Holbrook. The matter of fire protection was taken up and the selectmen given authority to act in the matter of "enjines and enjine-men"; they also were to investigate the possibilities of "erecting" one or more reservoirs, "on the advice of the enjineers." A jury list was drawn and the selectmen were instructed to meet with the representatives of the town of Randolph to protect the interests of Holbrook in the division of corporate property. The treasurer was given authority to borrow money in anticipation of taxes and the collection of taxes was let out to the low bidder. A set of bylaws was submitted and approved and a committee appointed to prepare a history of the events leading up to the acquisition of the town charter. Another committee was empowered to locate and build a town house. Before adjournment the meeting heard a report from the town hall committee that it had purchased the site on which the factory of the late E. N. Holbrook stood, with an option to accept the building on it should the town so desire. The committee was given the authority to act in the matter of buildings as it thought advisable.[3] The town hall was built shortly afterward and was used until destroyed by fire five years later.[4]

At the second annual meeting the selectmen reported the terms on which they had effected a settlement with Randolph over the division of corporate property between the two towns. Their report showed that on May 1, 1871, before the division, the total property valuation of the original town of Randolph had been $3,216,332.45; that, after the division, there remained in Randolph $1,997,261.30 of taxable valuation, and in Holbrook $1,219,071.15. Corporate property of the original town at the time of division had been $80,615.00 with additional cash assets and receivables of $12,094.35; a total of $92,709.35. Of these assets, $61,990.00 in property and cash assets and receivables totaling $12,094.35

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1. Randolph Town Reports, 1859, p. 52
2. Town Records, I, p. 16
3. Ibid., pp. 20, 25, 160
4. Hurd, op. cit., pp. 427, 429

remained to Randolph after the separation. Holbrook received the following:

	Value
School House No. 2 (land, building, furniture, etc.) on Plymouth St.	
School House No. 4, South St.	$13,000.00
Old School No. 9, Franklin St.	
New School No. 9, Franklin St.	
Two enginehouses with furniture, land, etc.	4,225.00
Engines, apparatus, etc.	1,200.00
Town hearse	200.00
Total	$18,625.00

From this sum was subtracted Holbrook's share of the liabilities of the parent town at the time of separation; the result gave Holbrook a net indebtedness to Randolph of $14,988.94, plus interest.[1] The two enginehouses involved in the transaction were the Aquarius and the Relief, both of which has served in East Randolph before the separation, one on Plymouth Street and the other on South Street.[2]

Table I

Division of Corporate Property Between Randolph and Holbrook

	Combined Randolph	Separate Holbrook	Separate Randolph
Total assessed value of taxable property at May 1, 1871	$3,216,332.45	$1,219,071.15	$1,997,261.30
Value of town property	92,709.35	18,625.00	74,084.35
Debt, interest and payables	80,759.74	4,529.20	76,230.54
Net value of Randolph assets	11,949.61		
Due Randolph from Holbrook		14,095.80	
Interest and insurance adjustment		893.14	
Total due Randolph from Holbrook		14,988.94[3]	

1. See Table I
2. Town Records, I, p. 42 et seq.
3. This sum, together with interest of $74.94 was paid on March 1, 1873 by the assumption by Holbrook of a part of the debt of Randolph to the Commonwealth in the amount of $15,000, together with a small cash balance paid directly. Annual Reports, 1873, pp. 42-47, incl.

In the arguments before the General Court relative to the division of the towns one of the points raised had been that, if separated, Holbrook would have no access to the Randolph public library. The new town set about speedily to remedy this lack. A committee of nine citizens was named in 1873 to obtain a library;[1] an appropriation of $5,000 was set aside for the purpose,[2] and on August 12, 1874, it was opened on the ground floor of the new Town Hall with a total of 1,964 volumes.[3] The library served the town until 1877, when, on Christmas morning, a disastrous fire destroyed all but a few books which had been in the hands of readers. With these few volumes the librarian conducted the library in his home for the next several months.[4] The fire was one of a series, believed to have been of incendiary origin, which had destroyed several other buildings besides the Town Hall.[5]

A number of steps were required for the town to keep pace with its industrial growth and its increasing population which had reached 1,726 in 1875.[6] One of these was improved fire protection. Among the first acts of the selectmen, after they had appointed the fire engineers, was the purchase of a new hook-and-ladder truck.[7] In 1878 a new pump called the "Washington No. Two" was purchased, and with it some 1,500 feet of steamer hose.[8] Another necessary purchase of equipment was made in 1904, when a vote of the town provided "settees for the Brookville Engine House" so that volunteer firemen might have a greater inducement to be on hand should fire break out.[9] The fire engineers became a formal fire department in 1879,[10] and in 1881 they were voted salaries of $5.00 a year, with extra pay for time spent in actual service or answering false alarms.[11] In 1893 the chief of the fire engineers was referred to as the fire chief,[12] and a year later a considerable appropriation was made to enlarge and improve the fire-alarm system.[13]

The policing of the town does not appear to have required much attention during its early years. Authority to appoint a special police

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1. Town Records, I, p. 59
2. Annual Reports, 1875, pp. 39, 40; Town Records, I, p. 86
3. Town Records, I, p. 86
4. Annual Reports, 1878, p. 28 et seq.
5. Hurd, op. cit., p. 427
6. Massachusetts Bureau of the Statistics of Labor, Census of Massachusetts: 1875, prepared under the direction of Carroll D. Wright, Chief of the Bureau, 3 vols., first edition, Boston, Albert J. Wright, State Printer, 1876, I, p. xxxix.
7. Annual Reports, 1872, p. 21
8. Town Records, II, p. 11
9. Ibid., V, p. 125
10. Ibid., II, p. 26
11. Ibid., pp. 71-76 incl.
12. Annual Reports, 1893, p. 40
13. Town Records, IV, p. 63

officer had been given to the selectmen in 1873 and in some other years;[1] in 1878 this appointive authority was extended to "one or more men as night watchmen or police";[2] and in 1882 it had been decided that "police officers are as necessary at night as on the Sabbath."[3] Mention of a chief of police does not appear in the town reports, however, until 1903;[4] the incumbent was later said to have served on the police force since 1888.[5]

If the more serious infractions of the law were few, the lesser crimes were not. One big problem was the matter of the violations of the town's strict dry laws. The town had come into being without a "rum-shop" within its confines; within ten years, however, there were nine such places operating.[6] Appropriations were made by the town for several years to various organizations to rid the town of the liquor nuisance,[7] and in one year one of these bodies, the Citizens' Law and Order League, reported that it had caused fourteen raids and six seizures to be made.[8] Tramps were another perennial problem. The selectmen were instructed in 1874 to appoint a man to the position of "superintendent of tramps";[9] the office was filled by appointment until 1878, when no one could be found to accept it.[10] The care of itinerants was then let out on a lowest-bidder system, which later proved expensive. After 1880 the selectmen were assigned the duty.[11]

Perhaps the most important of the early improvements in town services came in 1884, as the result of efforts to secure a system of water supply. On April 7 of that year a committee of five was appointed to investigate the matter of a waterworks and report its findings.[12] It reported at a special meeting three months later. Petition was made to the General Court, and in 1885 that body ruled that Braintree, Holbrook and Randolph might supply themselves with water from the Great Pond nearby, and that each of the three towns might elect a board of three water commissioners.[13] Holbrook accepted the terms of this act in 1886;[14] on February 19, 1886

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1. Town Records, I, p. 63
2. Ibid., II, p. 3
3. Ibid., p. 110
4. Annual Reports, 1903, pp. 16, 17
5. Ibid., 1933, frontispiece
6. Ibid., 1883, p. 6; 1884, p. 72
7. Ibid., 1883, p. 6 to 1887, p. 59, passim; Town Records, II, p. 163
8. Annual Reports, 1887, pp. 58, 59
9. Town Records, I, p. 90
10. Ibid., II, p. 10
11. Ibid., p. 47
12. Ibid., p. 165
13. Acts, 1885, chap. 217, secs. 1-11 incl.
14. Town Records, III, p. 25

the moderator named five persons to select a committee of three to act with Randolph in protecting the town's rights against persons who might try to acquire rights in the Pond.[1] On October 8 the water commissioners were authorized to borrow $100,000 for the construction of the system and to make all necessary contracts for the introduction, supply and use of water.[2] The laying of pipes for the system was begun on September 2, 1887.[3] The building of two standpipes was also begun, one in Holbrook and one in Randolph. The two standpipes were 30 feet in diameter; one was erected in Porter's Hill in Holbrook and the other on South Main Street in Randolph. The standpipe in Holbrook had a height of 112 feet; that in Randolph, 125 feet. The capacity of the Holbrook tank was estimated at approximately 593,760 gallons, and of the Randolph tank, 763,000 gallons. The double standpipe system was used so that the one in Randolph, with its greater height, might still supply both towns, should the pumping apparatus go out of order. The standpipes were finished before the pumping station; fire engines had to be used to fill them to prevent danger of their being blown down while empty.[4]

The establishment of the water system gave the town its second great legal battle. A number of mill owners on the Monatiquot River brought suit against the towns for their use of the waters of the Great Pond and hearings were begun which lasted forty days, from July 16 to September 20, 1890. A total of $121,000 was asked by the plaintiffs.[5] The court appointed auditors in the case who awarded the claimants $52,000.[6] The case was taken to the superior court at Dedham where, in December 1891, the claimants were sustained and awarded a sum $8,000.00 less than that granted by the auditors. Holbrook and Randolph agreed to settle the suits.[7]

Despite this setback, the water system proved to be a valuable asset to the town and a paying venture. Rates were set requiring different payments for homes and businesses, and distinguishing between houses with one or more bathtubs, extra outlets and water for animals. A maximum charge of $20 to homes was established.[8] A total of 71,713,934 gallons was pumped in one year, 1890, before the water system was five years old.[9] An engineer and a joint superintendent were appointed by the joint water commissioners of Randolph and Holbrook;[10] later, a collector of

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1. Town Records, III, p. 25
2. Acts, 1886, chap. 217, sec. 5
3. Annual Reports, 1887, p. 92
4. Ibid., pp. 74, 75
5. Ibid., 1890, pp. 81-83
6. Idem
7. Ibid., 1892, p. 74
8. Ibid., 1887, pp. 94, 95
9. Ibid., 1890, p. 92
10. Town Records, III, p. 57; Annual Reports, 1888, pp. 65-72 incl.

water rates and a clerk of the water commissioners were added to the Holbrook water department.[1] Permission was given in 1892 to issue another $35,000 in water bonds;[2] a similar permission was granted in 1904 with the restriction that the total amount of loans should not exceed $140,000;[3] other loans were authorized in 1909[4] and 1911.[5] One of the most recent expenditures on the system came in 1935, when the water commissioners were granted $20,000 by each of the towns and a federal appropriation of $29,250 for a filtration system.[6]

The town was able, at first, to realize its desire for a ten-dollar tax rate;[7] this figure began to rise very soon, however, as the costs of government increased and more town property was acquired. A total of $13,472.50 had been paid on town orders the first year;[8] but this amount had more than doubled by 1880, when town expenditures totaled $28,824.57,[9] and some items, like the appropriation for the care of paupers, had more than trebled.[10] As against the $18,000 in corporate property which had come from the division with Randolph, the town in 1880 reported assets of $52,631.43, and an indebtedness of $11,480.83.[11] The tax rate twelve years later, in 1892, reached a high figure of $20 per $1,000 based on a property valuation of $1,141,057 which included "520 2/3 houses" and 4,280 acres of land.[12] The population as listed in the 1890 census was 2,474.[13] By 1892 a total of $29,715.14 was realized from taxes, including poll and corporation taxes.[14] During the next decade the tax rate remained the same, the property valuation increased only $100,000 and the population decreased by 200, while the net indebtedness was more than double the 1880 figure, being $25,828.42 in 1902.[15]

The period of the greatest industrial growth came between 1875 and 1885. In 1875 there were 33 manufacturing and business establishments in the town, predominantly engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes,

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1. Annual Reports, 1911, p. 132; 1939, p. 118; Town Records, VI, p. 132
2. Town Records, III, p. 197; Acts, 1892, chap. 111
3. Acts, 1904, chap. 126
4. Ibid., 1909, chap. 426
5. Ibid., 1911, chap. 190
6. Annual Reports, 1935, p. 90
7. Ibid., 1872, p. 21
8. Idem
9. Annual Reports, 1880, pp. 4-15
10. Idem; ibid., 1872, p. 21
11. Ibid., 1880, pp. 30, 31
12. Ibid., 1892, p. 19 et seq.
13. Manual for the General Court, 1891, Boston, Wright and Potter, State Printers, 1891, p. 186 et seq.
14. Annual Reports, 1892, p. 19
15. Ibid., 1902, pp. 33-54 incl.

and the value of their output for the year totaled $937,318.[1] Seventeen of these establishments had existed at the end of 1871, before the division of Holbrook and Randolph.[2] In the ten-year period between 1875 and 1885, however, five new establishments were added to make the total 38, and several of the existing businesses underwent expansion programs.[3] The value of manufactured goods in 1885 was $1,548,038 and of agricultural products $34,807, an increase of 65% over 1875.[4] The industries and business establishments of the town gave employment to 814 persons.[5] The shoe and leather industry accounted for 17 of the 38 establishments, in which fact at least one historian of the period appears to have foreseen future danger through the dependence of the town on one major industry. Writing in 1884, Hurd stated:

> "How completely this business (boots and shoes) overshadowed all others is shown by the fact that in the census of 1880, out of a total (value of manufactured product) of two million, thirteen thousand and seven hundred dollars, all but six thousand dollars was in boots and shoes." He then cited the figures for this branch of industry as follows:[6]

Number of establishments	16
Male employees over 16 years of age	950
Female employees over 16 years of age	202
Wages paid during year	$ 445,000
Capital invested	487,600
Stock used	1,360,652
Value of product	2,007,700

In its manufactures Holbrook stood 74th among the towns in the state,[7] although in population it ranked only 148th.[8] It was seventh in production-per-individual based on population, and had greatly outdistanced Randolph, which reported a larger population than Holbrook, but which had aggregate manufactures of only $937,318 for the year. The agricultural production of Holbrook, however, ranked among the smallest reported in the state.[9]

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1. Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor, Census of Massachusetts: 1885, prepared under the direction of Carroll D. Wright, Chief of the Bureau, 3 vols., Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Co. State Printers, 1887, II, pp. lvi, lvii. Hereafter cited as Massachusetts Census, 1885.
2. Massachusetts Census, 1885, op. cit., II, p. 80
3. Ibid., pp. 24, 25, 80, 134; appendix, passim
4. Idem
5. Ibid., II, pp. 182-183
6. Hurd, op. cit., pp. 434, 435
7. Massachusetts Census, 1885, op. cit., II, p. lxxx et seq.
8. Idem
9. Idem

A sharp industrial decline brought about largely by the migration of the shoe and leather industries to Brockton, Lynn, and other large cities, came in the next 20 years. While nine new business establishments appeared in the town between 1885 and 1895, the aggregate production of all establishments in the latter year was only $496,868 for 18 reporting concerns, and the average annual employment had decreased to 230.[1] Of the eighteen remaining establishments six were still engaged in boot and shoe manufacturing and selling, four in building, and two new businesses had been begun: one dealing in shoe and leather polishes and the other in harness and saddlery.[2] By 1905 this decrease was even more pronounced; in that year the 19 establishments reported a capital of $37,200 and their sales totaled only $129,903.[3]

The town viewed this decline with grave concern. In 1895 a committee had been appointed at the annual meeting to investigate means of attracting new industries to the town and aiding in their establishment. An appropriation was made that year and a systematic circularization of manufacturers and businessmen was begun.[4] The committee, signing its report as the "Industrial Development Committee", stated in 1900 that it had made efforts to improve the transportation facilities affecting the town as a move toward restoring its former industrial leadership.[5] Some idea of the task confronting the committee may be gained from the report it made to the town in 1906, when it stated that since all efforts to rent a closed shoe factory had been unsuccessful, its site had been secured for a public park.[6] In 1910 the committee was forced to report that "Brockton, Whitman, Rockland, Bridgewater, and Middleboro are forging ahead while Holbrook is falling to the rear."[7] Their report referred to comparative progress in industrial production. The reasons given by the committee for Holbrook's condition were that the distance from the railroad station to the business center was too great and that there was no crosstown electric-car service.

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1. Massachusetts Bureau of the Statistics of Labor, Census of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1895, prepared under the direction of Horace G. Wadlin, Chief of the Bureau, 7 vols., Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Co., State Printers, 1896, V, pp. 76, 92. Hereafter cited as Massachusetts Census, 1895.
2. Massachusetts Census, 1895, op. cit., V, p. 34
3. Massachusetts Bureau of the Statistics of Labor, Census of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1905, prepared under the direction of the Chief of the Bureau, 4 vols., Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Co., State Printers, 1909; III, p. 172
4. Town Records, IV, p. 95
5. Annual Reports, 1900, pp. 67, 68
6. Ibid., 1906, p. 106
7. Ibid., 1910, pp. 66, 67

Serious efforts were made to give the town the transportation facilities needed to revive its business and industry. The highway appropriation remained low; it was even lower in 1890, 1902, and 1910 than the $3,098.70 set aside in 1872.[1] Several times the selectmen had appeared before the state highway department in an effort to have the major highways through the town improved,[2] however, and after 1910 the town appropriation for roads took such a rapid increase that by 1920 the combined town, county, and state appropriations for this purpose amounted to $34,000.[3]

The only change that had been made in the original Old Colony Railroad was its incorporation into the New York, New Haven, and Hartford system; its route still followed the valley as it had when the community was a part of Randolph. As regards street-railway service, however, improvements were destined to be rapid. In 1891 the East Side Street Railway Company of Brockton had been authorized to lay its tracks through Holbrook along Franklin Street from the Holbrook to the Braintree town lines.[4] The next year a franchise was granted to the Brockton and Holbrook Street Railway to operate an electric car system which would succeed the East Side concern.[5] The following year the Braintree Street Railway was granted a franchise for an electric railway line as near the Brockton and Holbrook tracks on Franklin Street as possible; this was confirmed by the General Court on June 13, 1894, subject to the limitations and conditions that the Holbrook selectmen should impose.[6] It was stipulated in the state act that the Braintree Street Railway Company be authorized to purchase all of the rights, franchises and property belonging to the Randolph Street Railway Company and to change its name to the Braintree, Randolph and Holbrook Street Railway Company "or some other suitable name." The same month, on the 25th, the legislature authorized the Brockton Street Railway Company to purchase the stock and franchise of the Brockton and Holbrook Company and the East Side Street Railway Company.[7]

Two proposed transportation systems which included Holbrook on their routes never materialized. One of these was the highly-controversial Boynton Bicycle Railway, which was to have extended its tracks through Holbrook on its route from Dudley Street in Roxbury to Fall River.[8] The The 'bicycle railway' was the somewhat astonishing invention of E. Moody Boynton, who had once made a fortune in another field. The train used a

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1. Annual Reports, 1890, 1902, 1910, passim
2. Town Records, IV, p. 78; VI, p. 111; VII, p. 15
3. Annual Reports, 1920, pp. 23-25 incl.
4. Ibid., 1891, p. 67
5. Ibid., 1892, pp. 67, 68
6. Acts, 1894, chap. 464
7. Ibid., chap. 516
8. Ibid., 1897, chap. 527

single wheel, reduced weight and a principle of balance for which unusual claims of speed and economy were made. A test stretch of the road was constructed in Long Island and put into actual operation while its inventor made a number of appeals to the General Court to begin its operation in Massachusetts.[1] In an act of June 1897 the railroad was authorized to carry passengers, baggage and mail;[2] a later franchise, extended to 1907, also permitted the transportation of freight.[3] It never was put into operation, however.

A second effort to connect Holbrook with other towns through an ambitious transportation venture came in 1900. That year the Industrial Improvement Committee reported that it had been cooperating with other nearby towns in an effort to arouse the federal government's interest in the possibilities that would be opened if a canal were constructed from the Fore River at Weymouth to Fall River.[4] Further action on the venture was taken in 1905, when the town meeting passed a resolution calling on its representative in the General Court, and the Industrial Improvement Committee, to "use all honorable means to secure the incorporation of the New York, Brockton and Boston Canal and Transportation Company."[5] This was followed a year later by the appointment of the selectmen as a committee to appear before the General Court to work in behalf of the canal. None of the efforts succeeded, however, and the canal plan was eventually dropped.[6]

Its losses in population and the removal of some of its most important factories did not halt the general growth of Holbrook as a town. In the period preceding its fiftieth anniversary (celebrated in 1922) there was a marked improvement in town management, a broadening of the school system and the addition of a number of public facilities that had not existed before or had been considered secondary in the growth of a young town.

One of these was the greatly-increased usefulness of the Holbrook Free Public Library. This institution rapidly regained its losses after the 1877 fire. The library committee had reported at that time that "only 1/12th of our collection of 2,700 volumes escaped the insatiable monster's wrath."[7] Yet, with the aid of town appropriations and the insurance received from the fire loss[8] the library undertook an immediate

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1. Boston Globe, March 11, 1927, p. 3; file at Globe Newspaper Co., 242 Washington St., Boston.
2. Acts, 1897, chap. 527
3. Ibid., 1907, chap. 556
4. Annual Reports, 1900, pp. 67, 68
5. Town Records, V, p. 141
6. Ibid., p. 158
7. Annual Reports, 1883, pp. 46, 47
8. Ibid., 1880, p. 4 et seq.

rebuilding program and by 1880 had 3,178 volumes on its shelves and in that year a circulation of 16,404 books.[1] Five years later the trustees reported that more than three-quarters of the town's population were users of the library, a truly remarkable figure.[2] In 1939 the trustees reported that there were nearly 12,000 books and documents in the institution.[3] Since its establishment the library has received contributions to a trust fund established for its maintenance; this fund has become the largest held by the town, and amounts to approximately $25,000. The income from it is augmented by appropriations from the town and by a portion of the dog tax.[4]

The matter of parks was taken up by the annual meeting in 1894 and it was voted to have a committee of five persons investigate the possibility of obtaining a site to be used for play, and "in the future to be developed into a park or parks."[5] The preliminary investigation made by this committee was followed by a recommendation in 1906 that the town accept the site of the White Shoe Factory, then unused, as a park site.[6] It had been purchased by Mary Holbrook and deeded to the community. Another committee of five was appointed to look into the matter of parks in 1910, with the authority to secure options on land they might deem appropriate.[7] This committee reported a month later that it had secured two sites, one in Holbrook and one in Brookville, and also reported a gift of $2,500 for the parks from E. E. Holbrook, already noted for his generosity toward the public library.[8] The two parks were accepted, and in 1913 the town accepted a statute creating the office of park commissioners.[9]

Holbrook shares with its parent communities, Braintree and Randolph, a rich military tradition. Since 1873 the town has made efforts to care for and decorate the graves of the heroes of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars; appropriations have been made periodically for the purpose, sometimes turned over to existing patriotic organizations and sometimes to special committees.[10] In 1883 the warrant for the annual meeting formally called for a vote "to see what action the town will take in the matter of Memorial Day";[11] in 1898 a report was made telling of the work along this

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1. Annual Reports, 1880, p. 32
2. Ibid., 1885, p. 50
3. Ibid., 1939, pp. 146-151 incl.
4. Ibid., p. 148
5. Town Records, IV, p. 65
6. Annual Reports, 1906, p. 106
7. Town Records, VI, pp. 39-43 incl.
8. Ibid., p. 43
9. Ibid., p. 129
10. Ibid., I, p. 66; Annual Reports, 1884, p. 6
11. Annual Reports, 1883, p. 74

line which the Holbrook Memorial Association had done.[1] A monument to the war dead was erected in 1909, paid for partly by the town and partly by a gift from E. E. Holbrook. The total cost of the monument which adjoins the Town Hall was $3,000.[2] During the World War the town had a special aid chapter which worked with the Red Cross and later turned its work over to that body,[3] and a committee on public safety, which guarded the waterworks and other public property, encouraged the raising of gardens and similar contributions to the country during the war.[4] In more recent years the William B. Dalton Post of the American Legion has cooperated with the supervisor of soldiers' and sailors' graves in the care of graves,[5] while the Memorial Day committee still arranges annual exercises.[6]

The rapid growth of the town in its early corporate years and the fact that it had never been satisfied with the number or quality of the schools it had received in the division brought a constant effort to improve the old school buildings and to add new ones whenever possible. The first of these was built in 1872 on Union Street, at a cost of $1,612.51.[7] It was followed by another new building in 1882,[8] and in 1893 plans were submitted by the school committee for a new two-story building on Plymouth Street.[9] A year later the Brookville section of the town was given a new primary school building which cost $400.[10]

Even with these additions, however, the amount of money spent per pupil did not keep pace with the general progress of other town departments. In 1873 the sum spent per pupil had been $17.42;[11] it had decreased to $13.96 by 1883.[12] The enrollment and the number of teachers, meanwhile, had been increasing. In 1874 it had been reported that 13 teachers were employed in eight schools keeping separate registers and one teacher in a summer intermediate department.[13] By 1885 there were 11 separate schools and 22 teachers.[14] The number of pupils that year was 482.[15] With an increased enrollment of 504 in 1902, there were only

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1. Annual Reports, 1898, p. 107
2. Ibid., 1909, p. 77
3. Ibid., 1918, p. 71
4. Town Records, VII, p. 15; Annual Reports, 1917, p. 83
5. Annual Reports, 1939,p. 136
6. Idem
7. Ibid., 1872, p. 21
8. Town Records, II, p. 128
9. Ibid., IV, p. 47
10. Ibid., p. 65
11. Annual Reports, 1883, p. 63
12. Idem
13. Ibid., 1874, pp. 34-35 incl.
14. Ibid., 1885, pp. 60-61
15. Ibid., pp. 60-68 incl.

13 regular teachers in 12 schools.[1] Eighteen years later it was complained that all the teachers in the high school had been forced to resign to accept better paying positions,[2] and that Holbrook had one of the lowest property valuations per pupil in a group of more than a hundred comparable towns. In valuation the town had $3,575 for each pupil, making Holbrook 109th out of the 115 towns in the compilation. Its expenditure ($35.76),[3] while nearly three times as high as that of 1883 compared unfavorably with the average for other towns; it was 338th out of 353 towns in the state.[4]

The standing of the town in educational matters has been greatly improved in later years, however. In 1928 the high school was remodelled at a cost of $112,000,[5] and in 1935 a new six-room school building was completed on Franklin Street.[6] There are now 23 teachers, two part-time supervisors, and an enrollment of 606 in six schools.[7] Since 1900 a joint superintendent has served Holbrook, Randolph, and Avon;[8] departments of drawing, music, commercial arts, and other courses are included in the curriculum. The average expenditure per pupil for 1939 was $66.23 in the lower grades and $129 in the high school.[9] The schools now have an extensive health program which includes gymnastics and physical education at the high school and athletic programs at the grade schools, a school physician under whose supervision periodical examinations are given to the pupils, a school nurse who makes regular calls at the schools and the homes of the children, and participation in the Norfolk County clinics. Supervision over attendance is maintained through a truant officer, and regular census tabulations of children of school age are made. The appropriation for school uses in 1939 was $53,415.[10]

Since 1818, when the movement to become a separate parish provided the impetus that later made Holbrook a town, the church has kept pace with the progress of the rest of community life. The first church in the area was joined by another in 1856;[11] this latter was the Winthrop Church, formed out of a rift in the Second Church of Randolph and later combined with the Second Church to make the Winthrop Congregational Society of Holbrook.[12] The legislature put its official sanction on

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1. Annual Reports, 1902, pp. 69, 70
2. Ibid., 1920, p. 87
3. Ibid., pp. 100, 101
4. Idem
5. Town Records, VIII, p. 41
6. Ibid., p. 189
7. Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 196-246 incl.
8. Town Records, IV, p. 56; Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 206-211 incl.
9. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 235
10. Ibid., p. 256 et seq.
11. Hurd, op. cit., p. 432
12. Ibid., p. 432 et seq.

this union in an act of April, 1873.[1] To these two churches was added another in 1879, the Methodist Episcopal Church. This church began with a series of meetings held in the homes of followers of the Methodist doctrines. Later it was established as a regular church with a resident minister.[2]

Since 1922 Holbrook has shown excellent signs of recovering its enviable position in industry and commerce in the Commonwealth. Despite a temporary financial crisis that worked havoc with many communities, the town since 1934 has steadily increased the volume of its manufactured products and the number of residents employed. Its nearness to the shoe community of Brockton has assured a number of its citizens work in this industry; within the town, however, there are now a manufacturer of ice cream, a laboratory producing patent and proprietary medicines, an establishment handling rubber goods other than tires, a boot and shoe cut-stock factory, a shoe findings factory, and a manufacturer and wholesaler of concrete products. One of the factories, the Avon Sole plant, normally employs scores of workers. This concern is located in the Brookville area, just across the line from Avon and on the railroad lines.[3]

Recently compiled statistics[4] show the increase in Holbrook's manufactures since 1934 and the slump which occurred in the period between 1932 and 1934:

YEAR	NUMBER OF ESTAB.	NO. WAGE EARNERS	TOTAL WAGES	VALUE OF PRODUCTS
1932	5	299	$225,837	$1,024,390
1934	4	110	108,304	557,406
1936	6	225	187,131	1,329,967
1937	6	282	315,133	1,792,197
1938	6	321	388,555	2,076,024

The healty condition of most of the governmental departments which existed at the time of the fiftieth anniversary has been maintained. Some of the departments, like the overseers of the public welfare, have been placed under considerably heavier stress in the past decade; others, like the board of health, have expanded the scope of their services until they compare favorably with communities several times as large as Holbrook.

Since 1933 the overseers of the public welfare have played a major part in the supervision of CWA, ERA, and WPA programs which have provided work and other benefits for the town's residents. In 1935 the

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1. Acts, 1873, chap. 163
2. Hurd, op. cit., p. 432
3. Information supplied by Boston Chamber of Commerce, Boston, 1939.
4. Statistics supplied by Boston Chamber of Commerce, Boston, 1939.

town received $31,160.00 in wages and the value of distributed commodities.[1] A number of local improvements were made that year under the direction of the local Federal Emergency Relief Administration.[2] The three overseers also signed the report on WPA activities in 1936, as the local Works Progress Administration; the sum received from the federal government that year was $61,220.00.[3] Wages amounting to $46,524.45 were paid to Holbrook workmen in 1939.[4] The emergency relief programs have covered a wide range. In addition to the distribution of surplus foodstuffs and clothing made in WPA sewing rooms, the fire-alarm system of the town was extended in one project, and repairs were made to the Town Hall roof in another; also to the town's highways, roads and playgrounds, to the Franklin School and others, not to mention several thousand of the town's books which have also been repaired.[5]

The selectmen are still the overseers of the public welfare as the department is now called. This department receives one of the largest appropriations of any in the town government. In 1935 the finance committee recommended that $24,021.02 be set aside for public welfare and old age assistance;[6] in 1939 the recommendation was $19,050 for public welfare and $26,000 for old age assistance, a total of $45,050.[7] Not included in these figures were amounts for soldier's relief, and military or state aid.

The town has given considerable attention to the matter of health and sanitation in recent years. A board of health of three members functions regularly and includes among its activities the inspection of dairy barns, the investigations of complaints concerning health nuisances, the conduct of diphtheria clinics and action in cases of communicable or contagious diseases.[8] Included in the sanitation program is the removal of rubbish and garbage and care of the town dump. The health and sanitation appropriation is still a small one, this department costing the town only $1,792.70 in 1939.[9]

To the earlier work of surveying the highways have been added several other duties in the past two decades. The superintendent of streets is now responsible for highway building and repair, sidewalks, maintenance of state roads, snow removal, and street lighting. Catch basins are regularly inspected and cleaned and pipes for drainage laid when needed.[10]

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1. Annual Reports, 1935, p. 88
2. Idem
3. Ibid., 1936, pp. 106-108 incl.
4. Ibid., 1939, pp. 115-117 incl.
5. Ibid., 1934-1939 passim
6. Ibid., 1935, pp. 178-188 incl.
7. Ibid., 1939, pp. 251-264 incl.
8. Ibid., p. 137 et seq.
9. Ibid., p. 259
10. Ibid., p. 247

Many additions and improvements to the fire apparatus of the town have given it excellent fire protection. Although over $50,000 worth of property was involved in fires in the town in 1939, a loss of less than $5,000 was sustained; that year the department answered a total of 81 calls.[1] There are now an engine, a ladder truck, two combination trucks, hose, extinguishers, and similar apparatus in the department.[2] Extensive work has been done in late years on the alarm system, and the department issues permits for outdoor fires, fireworks, oil burners, explosives, and other fire hazards. The department makes annual reports to the board of selectmen,[3] as does the police department, which reported in 1939 that its cruising car had traveled a total of 20,000 miles and that a stretcher unit had been installed which made 29 trips to hospitals the first year.[4] Maintenance of the Town Hall cost $2283 during 1938, a small part of which was offset by rentals.[5]

In 1938, due to dissatisfaction with the rates being charged by the Weymouth Light and Power Company, a committee of five was appointed to investigate the feasibility of a municipal light plant. This committee reported in 1938 that it had held 22 meetings with a similar committee of the town of Randolph, had investigated a number of municipal lighting plants both within and outside the state, and heard representatives of the power companies, after which the committee recommended that an engineering survey be made of the cost of a municipal plant for Holbrook.[6] Although $1700 was appropriated by Holbrook and $2900 by Randolph for the survey, the committee at the time of its last report was awaiting formal authorization by the Randolph town meeting to proceed.[7]

The actual process of running the town has undergone few changes since its incorporation. The town form of government is still in use. It is now required that the annual reports be distributed before the annual town meeting, with the recommendations of the finance committee on requested appropriations.[8] The only major change in voting facilities has been the creation of a second precinct, in the Brookville section.[9] Brookville has its own firehouse and engines, school, and park; the bylaws stipulate that five members of the finance committee of fifteen shall be residents of that section of the town;[10] in other respects, however, it is an integral part of Holbrook.

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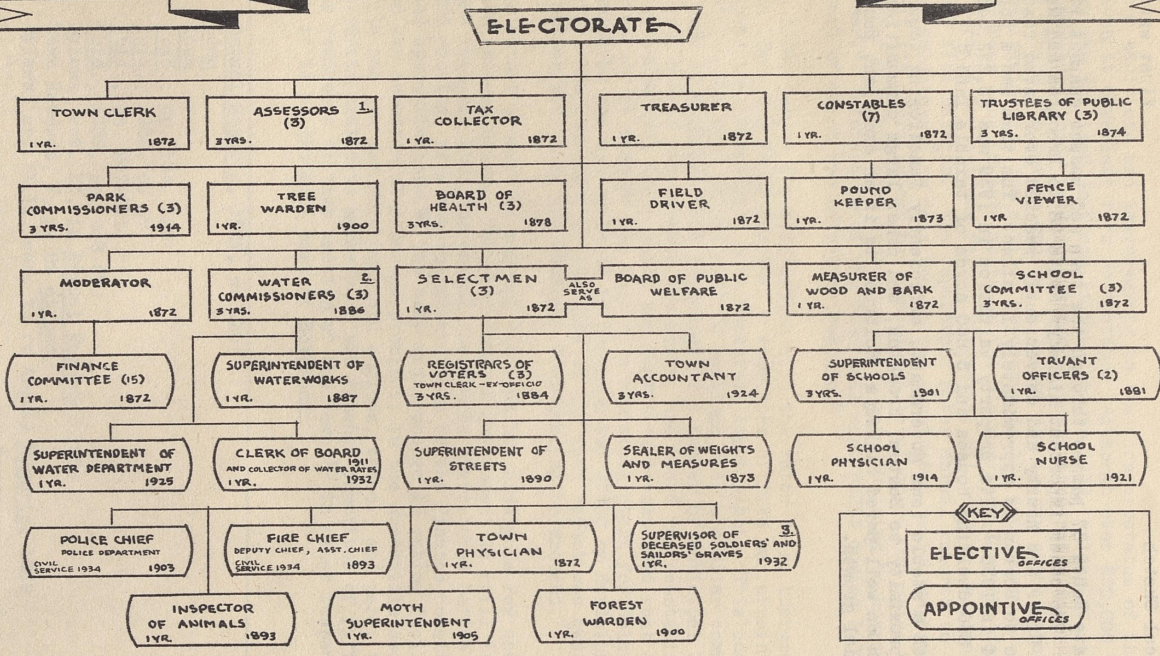
1. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 110
2. Idem
3. Idem
4. Ibid., pp. 134, 135
5. Ibid., 1938, p. 57
6. Ibid., pp. 207-213
7. Ibid., 1939, pp. 248-250
8. Bylaws, art. XI, in Annual Reports, 1939
9. Town Records, V, p. 82 et seq.
10. Bylaws, art. XXIII, sec. 2, in Annual Reports, 1939

State Route 37 passes through the town and busses connect it with Boston. Two other important highways, Route 28 to Brockton and Route 138 to Fall River are nearby and conveniently reached over paved roads. The distance to Boston is approximately 17 miles. The town had a population of 3,364 in 1935.[1] Its property valuation in 1939 was $3,272,546, including 866 dwelling houses and 3,860 acres of taxable land.[2]

With a stable town government, efficiently functioning town departments, proximity to Boston, Brockton, and other large communities, and location on well-paved highways, Holbrook is in an excellent position for industrial growth.

1. Bylaws, art. XXIII, sec. 2, in Annual Reports, 1939, p. 235
2. Ibid., p. 107

CHART OF TOWN GOVERNMENT — HOLBROOK — 1940



1. THE SELECTMEN WERE ASSESSORS FROM 1872-1896 AND FROM 1898-1908. SINCE 1908 THE ASSESSORS HAVE BEEN ELECTED SEPARATELY.
2. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WATER COMMISSIONERS OF RANDOLPH, THEY APPOINT JOINT SUPERINTENDENT OF WATER WORKS, WHO HAPPENS ALSO TO BE SUPERINTENDENT OF HOLBROOK WATER DEPARTMENT AND OTHER NECESSARY EMPLOYES.
3. THE SUPERVISOR IS ASSISTED BY THE MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE.

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND RECORDS SYSTEM[1]

Governmental Organization

For a number of years prior to the incorporation of Holbrook as a separate town, and while it was still known as the East Village of Randolph, its citizens took a leading part in the government of the parent community. In those years when prudential committees served the various school districts, residents of the East Village exercised the authority to appoint some of the teachers, a superintending committee later giving the recommended teachers an examination.[2] During many of these years the town was divided into highway districts, and in one year, 1854, at least three East Village men served as district surveyors. These men were Hiram Belcher in District 18, Samuel L. White in District 20 and Thomas West in District 21.[3] For several years until 1852 one of the Randolph selectmen was Zenas French, later one of the prominent figures in the fight to establish the town of Holbrook;[4] another selectman from the East Village was L. S. Whitcomb, in 1859.[5] The selectmen were also the overseers of the poor and the tax assessors.

When the town officially came into being in 1872 a comparatively complete slate of officers was set up. Their work covered the vital points of town management: general government, finance, records, protection of persons and property, education, welfare, and highways.[6] Not included with the first town officers, however, was the board of health, which is not mentioned in the records until 1878.[7]

The town-meeting form of government was adopted the first year and is still in use. Three selectmen were elected who were also made overseers of the poor and assessors;[8] they served as the assessors until 1908, and are still the overseers of public welfare.[9] A town clerk was elected who also served as treasurer and the two offices were combined for the next 28 years.[10] Three auditors were elected by ballot at the meeting for a one-year term.[11] At the adjourned session in March 21 it

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1. For a sketch of the development and functioning of town government generally, see Historical Records Survey, Town and City Government in Massachusetts, to be published by the Historical Records Survey Project in Massachusetts.
2. Randolph Town Reports, 1848, pp. 29, 30
3. Ibid., 1855, pp. 11-21 incl.
4. Ibid., 1842, p. 6 to 1852, p. 17 passim
5. Ibid., 1859, p. 52
6. Town Records, I, p. 14 et seq.
7. Ibid., p. 14 to II, p. 29 passim
8. Ibid., I, p. 14
9. Ibid., VI, p. 4; Annual Reports, 1939, p. 3
10. Town Records, I, p. 14; ibid., V, p. 28
11. Ibid., I, p. 16

was voted that the collection of taxes be allotted to the lowest bidder, and that the tax collector be empowered to use all means of collecting taxes which a town treasurer would employ.[1] The bylaws adopted later the same year fixed the time at which the tax collector should receive the list of assessments and set a rate of interest to be charged for delinquent tax payments.[2]

The school committee elected that year consisted of three members, chosen to serve one, two, and three years respectively, and three years each after 1874. This method of election has not changed.[3] Other elective and appointive officials, chosen to function during the first year, were four constables, three fence viewers, six field drivers (elected by acclamation), five measurers of wood and bark, a surveyor of lumber, and a sealer of weights and measures. The matter of fire protection was placed in the hands of the selectmen, who appointed two engineers and the next year made a purchase of fire equipment.[4] In the town records for 1884 a board of three registrars of voters appears, the town clerk being ex-officio a member of the board.[5]

The bylaws adopted in 1872 gave the selectmen some of the powers usually delegated to police officials, one of which was the authority to prosecute violations of the bylaws.[6] The following year the selectmen appointed a special police officer, and were voted the power in 1878 to appoint one or more men as night watchmen or police. The meeting in 1882 voted that police officers were necessary at night as well as on Sundays, and in 1883 the selectmen were authorized to employ night police from 8 to 11 o'clock.[7] For a number of years prior to 1903 entries are found in the annual reports showing payments to one of the constables for night police duty;[8] in 1903 this officer appears as the chief of police.[9] A superintendent of tramps was appointed in 1874 and until 1878;[10] in the latter year the care of the tramps was let out to the lowest bidder[11] but in 1880 it was voted that this duty be given back to the selectmen.[12]

Supervision of the streets was given to the selectmen at an adjourned session of the first town meeting; they were authorized to appoint three

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1. Town Records, I, p. 20
2. Bylaws, art. VII, in Annual Reports, 1873, p 16
3. Town Records, I, p. 15; Annual Reports, 1939, p 3
4. Town Records, I, pp. 19, 62; Annual Reports, 1873, p 6
5. Annual Reports, 1884, p. 2
6. Bylaws, art. XIII, in Annual Reports, 1873, p. 19
7. Town Records, I, p. 63; ibid., II, pp. 3, 110, 135
8. Annual Reports, 1880-1902 passim
9. Ibid., 1903, pp. 16, 17
10. Town Records, I, p. 90 to II, p. 10 passim
11. Ibid., II, p. 10
12. Ibid., p. 47

highway surveyors for a term of one year.[1] The next year the town voted to accept Chapter 51 of the Acts of 1873, which gave to a board of road commissioners the powers formerly held by selectmen and highway surveyors; three commissioners were then elected.[2] Another change in the highway supervision came in 1876, when the town was divided into six highway districts and one person was placed in charge of each district;[3] after one year, however, the election of road commissioners was resumed.[4] The selectmen were given charge of the roads in a vote taken in 1885 but this vote was later rescinded[5] and the question taken up again in 1888. In 1890 the selectmen appointed a superintendent of streets in whose charge the care of the highways has since remained.[6]

The town made an effort to obtain a public library in 1873, when a committee of nine citizens were named to serve as library trustees.[7] The library was opened the following year after $5,000 had been appropriated for it.[8] It was burned in 1877, and temporarily conducted at the home of the librarian.[9]

The first town meeting had empowered the selectmen to make an effort to obtain one or more reservoirs.[10] Actual work on a municipal water supply did not begin until 1886, after the legislature had enacted a measure "to supply the towns of Braintree, Randolph, and Holbrook with water." The act provided that each town should elect three water commissioners by ballot; the commissioners were given all of the authority granted to the towns under the act.[11] A water loan of $100,000 was authorized to Holbrook, and the laying of pipes was begun in 1887.[12] The commissioners employed an engineer in 1887, and jointly with Randolph appointed a superintendent who served the two towns until 1925.[13] Holbrook has employed its own superintendent since.[14] Other appointments of the water commissioners have been a clerk of the water commissioners who first appears

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1. Town Records, I, pp. 16, 27
2. Acts, 1873, chap. 51; Town Records, I, p 60
3. Town Records, I, pp. 129-131 incl.
4. Ibid., p 146
5. Ibid., III, pp 7-9 incl.
6. Ibid., pp. 73, 142
7. Ibid., I, p. 59
8. Annual Reports, 1875, p 39 et seq.
9. Ibid., 1878, p. 28
10. Town Records, I, p. 20
11. Acts, 1885, chap. 217
12. Annual Reports, 1887, p 92
13. Town Records, III, p. 57; Annual Reports, 1888, pp. 65-72, incl ; ibid., 1925, p. 89
14. Annual Reports, 1939, p 118

as a separate officer in 1911, and a collector of water rates, first mentioned in 1932.[1]

Formal mention of a board of health appears in the town records in 1878, when a board of three members is shown.[2] The election of this board occurs each year[3] until 1896 when the members were chosen for one, two, and three years respectively, and one each year for a three-year term thereafter.[4] One of the early problems of the board was the matter of garbage disposal; in 1893 it was asked to investigate the manner in which city garbage was brought into the town.[5] In 1930 the board acted with the selectmen in making recommendations for a garbage-disposal system.[6]

The bylaws adopted in 1872 provided that no money should be paid out by the treasurer except upon the approval of the selectmen.[7] A more rigid control over town finances was begun in 1886 when the moderator named five persons to submit the names of nine others to act in the matter of appropriations.[8] A similar action was taken in 1893, when a committee of ten was appointed.[9] Other committees were appointed until 1914, when it was voted that the town should annually elect an appropriations committee.[10] Nine were elected on this committee until 1926, when it was voted to increase the membership to 15. This change was made a part of the bylaws the following year.[11] All articles in the warrants for annual meetings are submitted to the committee for its recommendations, and are included in the annual reports distributed to voters before annual meetings.[12]

Two committees of citizens which had an important bearing on the town's affairs were set up during the period 1872-1900. The Citizens' Law and Order League of Holbrook was one that came into being when the town found difficulty in dealing with the liquor question. Although there had been "not a single fully established rum shop" in the town in 1872, there were reportedly nine of them ten years later.[13] The Holbrook Temperance Society was given an appropriation of $300 in 1883,[14] and the

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1. Annual Reports, 1911, p 132; Town Records, VI, p 132
2. Town Records, II, p 29
3. Ibid., III, pp. 51, 71, 140; ibid., IV, pp. 7, 35
4. Ibid., IV, p. 114; Annual Reports, 1939, p 4
5. Town Records, IV, p. 34
6. Ibid., VIII, p. 98
7. Bylaws, art. X, in Annual Reports, 1873, p. 18
8. Town Records, III, p. 31
9. Ibid., IV, p. 54
10. Ibid., VI, pp. 134, 135
11. Ibid., VII, p. 4; Bylaws, art. XXIII, in Annual Reports, 1939, p. 192
12. Bylaws, art. XXIII, in Annual Reports, 1939, p. 192
13. Annual Reports, 1884, p 72
14. Ibid., 1883, p. 6

Law and Order League received various sums from the town after 1884. In one year it caused 14 raids.[1]

In an effort to induce new industries to settle in Holbrook, the moderator in 1895 appointed a committee of seven and an appropriation was made to the Citizens Improvement Company.[2] This body, signing itself the Industrial Development Committee, reported in 1900 that it was cooperating with groups of citizens from other towns in an effort to secure a ship canal from the Fore River in Weymouth to the Fall River.[3] In addition to its attempts to secure new businesses for the town, the committee at various times sought the installation of street lights and other town improvements.[4]

An effort to establish a public park was made in 1894, when a committee of five was named to investigate the possibility of obtaining by purchase or gift a tract of land "to be in the future developed into a park or parks."[5] The Committee for Industrial Development reported in 1906 that a factory site had been deeded to the town for park use;[6] in 1910 five persons were again chosen as a park committee and instructed to secure options on land they felt desirable for the purpose.[7] The committee reported later that it had found two sites, one in Holbrook and one in Brookville, and that it had been offered a gift of $2,500 for park use by one of the citizens.[8] Park commissioners were set up in 1914 following a vote of the town meeting accepting statutory provisions creating the office.[9]

The school committee had been authorized in 1880 to meet with the committees of nearby towns to consider the appointment of a joint superintendent of schools.[10] Later, in 1891, a vote had been taken to unite with Avon, Sharon, Abington, Stoughton, Whitman, Randolph or any one of them to obtain the joint officer.[11] It was voted in 1900 to accept the provision of Chapter 466 of the Acts of 1898 calling for the appointment of a joint superintendent,[12] and the next year the town joined Avon and Randolph as a district.[13] This system of appointing the superintendent

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1. Annual Reports, 1887, pp 58, 59
2. Town Records, IV, p. 95
3. Annual Reports, 1900, pp 67, 68
4. Ibid., 1911, pp. 71, 72
5. Town Records, IV, p 65
6. Annual Reports, 1906, p. 106
7. Town Records, VI, p. 39
8. Ibid., p. 43
9. Ibid., p. 129; General Laws, 1932, chap. 45, sec. 2
10. Town Records, II, p. 47
11. Ibid., III, p 174
12. Ibid., V, p. 33
13. Ibid., p. 56

is still used.[1]

The first reports of the fire engineers began to appear separately in 1878[2] and in 1879 the town voted to set up the engineers as a fire department.[3] Five dollars a year for each of the engineers was voted in 1881, with additional sums for hours of actual service and for false alarms.[4] The town had two fire houses; one at Holbrook and the other in the Brookville section.[5] In 1893 a report appeared signed by the fire chief; a year later a reference was made to "the first three engineers."[6] In 1902 the fire department had "five men and 28 on the manual force."[7]

The system of allotting the collection of taxes to the lowest bidder remained in use until 1908, after which it was filled by annual election.[8] The successful bid for the year 1872 had been 1 1/8 mills on the dollar; during some of the following years this rate was as high as eight mills.[9] An effort to pay the tax collector a salary was made in 1899; he refused it, however, in favor of a percentage arrangement of six mills.[10] An interest rate of 12 percent had been imposed on delinquent taxes in 1877;[11] the bylaws later established the rate at seven percent, subject to the vote of the town, but the superior court did not approve this charge.[12]

The inspection of cattle, of other animals, and of the barns in which they were kept was given to an inspector of cattle appointed in 1893 by the selectmen.[13] This appointment was made until 1901, when the office of cattle commissioner was established.[14] For the next three years two commissioners were appointed;[15] in 1920 the commissioners were replaced by an animal inspector, appointed by the selectmen. This method of filling the office is still used.[16] The selectmen appointed a moth superintendent in 1905, who was also the tree warden.[17] The latter

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1. Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 206-211 incl.
2. Ibid., 1878, p. 10
3. Town Records, II, p. 26
4. Ibid., pp. 71, 76 incl.
5. Ibid., IV, pp. 140, 141
6. Annual Reports, 1893, p. 40; Town Records, IV, p. 63
7. Annual Reports, 1902, p. 53
8. Town Records, I, pp. 20, 149; ibid., II, p. 72; ibid., III, p. 53; ibid., V, p. 175; ibid., VI, p. 5
9. Ibid., I, p. 20
10. Ibid., V, pp. 8, 9
11. Ibid., I, p. 147
12. Bylaws, art. VII, sec. 2, in Annual Reports, 1884, pp. 79, 83
13. Town Records, IV, p. 40
14. Ibid., V, p. 61; Annual Reports, 1900, p. 3
15. Town Records, V, pp. 86, 107, 126
16. Annual Reports, 1920, p. 5; ibid., 1939, p. 138
17. Ibid., 1905, p. 116

office had been in existence since 1900. In 1908 the duties of the moth superintendent and the tree warden were officially combined; they remained so until 1925. Since that year, however, the same man has usually held both positions.[1] The overseers of the poor appointed a town physician until 1906; that year they appointed two men to the office.[2] The appointment is still made.[3] The records for 1898 show the appointment of a public weigher, and in 1916 of a weigher of ice.[4]

By 1910 the list of town officers was almost as complete as at the present time. There were the three selectmen and overseers of the poor; three assessors, a town clerk, treasurer, school committee of three, three commissioners, three trustees of the public library, three registrars of voters, three members of the board of health, seven constables, three fire engineers, a chief of police, three auditors, two cattle commissioners, two measurers of wood and bark, two fence viewers, a field driver who also served as pound keeper, a tax collector, a sealer of weights and measures, a tree warden, and a forest warden. The only offices shown in the 1939 annual report which did not exist in 1910 were the park commissioners, the supervisor of deceased soldiers' and sailors' graves, and the finance committee.[5]

The town celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1922; it was a far more complex community than that of the first few years. The population, which had been 1,726 in 1875,[6] was 3,161 in 1920.[7] The first year 10 paupers and 31 tramps had been aided on a total appropriation of $1,084;[8] the appropriation for the welfare department in 1920 was $6,868. The total of all expenditures was $176,000,[9] as compared with a total of $15,300 for 1873.[10] The tax rate had been $10 per $1,000 in 1872;[11] it was $20 in 1892 and by 1939 had reached $41.70.[12] The indebtedness of the town had grown to $69,000 by 1920,[13] approximately the same amount as two decades later, in 1939; the sum, however, is well within the statutory debt limit of $79,000.[14]

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1. Annual Reports, 1908, p. 73; ibid., 1925, p. 69 et seq.; ibid., 1939, pp. 113, 114
2. Town Records, IV, p. 6; V, p. 11; Annual Reports, 1906, p. 20
3. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 29
4. Town Records, IV, p. 181; ibid., VI, p. 179
5. Annual Reports, 1910, p. 2 et seq; ibid., 1939, pp. 3, 4, 5
6. Patee, op. cit., p. 2 et seq.; ibid., 1939, pp. 3, 4, 5
7. Annual Reports, 1920, p. 105
8. Ibid., 1872, pp. 5, 6
9. Ibid., 1920, pp. 23-25 incl.
10. Ibid., 1873, p. 21
11. Ibid., 1873, p. 21
12. Ibid., 1892, p. 19; ibid., 1939, p. 108
13. Ibid., 1920, pp. 23, 25; ibid., 1939, pp. 49-51 incl.
14. Idem

The changes in Holbrook's governmental organization to the present time have been relatively few. The town meeting system is still used and five per-cent of the registered voters constitute a quorum.[1] A moderator is still elected at each annual meeting and the major offices are filled by election, for one or three years, or by appointment.[2] Since 1934 the police and fire departments have been subject to civil service regulations;[3] to the fire department have been added an assistant chief, a deputy chief and a full-time driver.[4] The school committee employs a school physician and a school nurse, and since 1925 the town has had an accountant, appointed for a three-year term by the selectmen. His accounts are audited by the state division of accounts.[5]

The overseers of the public welfare have maintained a partial supervision over federal relief work projects since 1933. These projects have provided employment for a number of citizens and have been utilized to make needed town improvements. Surplus food and clothing have been distributed through them to needy residents.[6]

A vote was taken in 1902 to divide the town into two precincts in accordance with Chapter 548 of the Acts of 1898; there is now a precinct in the central part of Holbrook and one in Brookville, in the southern section.[7] The bylaws amended in 1927, stipulated that five of the members of the finance committee of fifteen should be residents of the Brookville section.[8]

As would be the case in any form of town meeting government, special committees for purposes of investigation or to carry out the decisions of the meeting along special lines, have been appointed or elected at various times during the town's history. A table of such special committees follows:-

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1. Bylaws, art. XXII, in Annual Reports, 1939, p. 192
2. Annual Reports, pp. 4, 5 et seq.
3. Statement of state division of civil service
4. Town Records, VI, p. 78; Annual Reports, 1939, p. 4
5. Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 66-70, incl.
6. Ibid., 1935, p. 88 et seq.; 1939, pp. 115-117 incl.
7. Town Records, V, p. 82 et seq.
8. Bylaws, art. XXIII, sec. 2, in Annual Reports, 1939, p. 193

TABLE OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

DATE APPTD.	NO. MBRS.	PURPOSE	PAGE IN RECDS. OR REPTS.
Mar. 21, 1872	7	To locate and build a town hall	Town Records, I, p. 20
Apr. 1, 1872	3	To prepare history of division of town	Ibid., I, p. 25
Apr. 7, 1873	9	To establish public library	Ibid., I, p. 59
Aug. 15, 1878	-	Selectmen and fire engineers to be a committee to purchase fire hose	Ibid., II, p. 11
Feb. 14, 1878	3	To procure plans for new town house	Ibid., II, p. 3
Apr. 4, 1881	6	Selectmen and School Committee to appoint truant officer	Ibid., II, p. 74
Apr. 5, 1886	3	To take charge of ballot box	Ibid., III, p. 29
1896	5	To investigate purchase of poor farm	Annual Reports, 1896, p. 74
1897	3	To build new schoolhouse	Ibid., 1897, p. 53
1897	3	To arrange July Fourth observation	Ibid., p. 54
1897	7	To make recommendations for lower taxes	Ibid., p. 82
1898	3	To work on matter of five-cent-fare	Ibid., 1898, p. 46
1900	3	To investigate lighting of town hall	Ibid., 1900, p. 42
1902	3	Building committee for Brookville firehouse	Ibid., 1902, p. 96
1905	5	To investigate lighting town	Ibid., 1905, p. 52
1910	5	To investigate, obtain option on park	Ibid., 1910, p. 47
1912	3	To convey thanks to Ellen M. Spear	Ibid., 1912, p. 48
1915	2	To repair Brookville fire house	Ibid., 1915, p. 108
Mar. 1, 1915	5	To obtain fire-alarm whistle	Town Records, VI, p. 150
Mar. 1, 1915	3	To petition for water apportionment	Ibid., p. 154
June 29, 1916		To solicit subscriptions to enable business concern to enlarge factory	Ibid., p. 184
Mar. 5, 1917	6	To seek removal of telephone charges	Ibid., VII, p. 8

TABLE OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES (CONT'D)

DATE APPTD.	NO. MBRS.	PURPOSE	PAGE IN RECDS. OR REPTS.
1917	12	To act as committee on public safety	Annual Reports, 1917, p. 83
1917	4	To augment work of Red Cross chapter	Ibid., p. 86
Sept. 29, 1919	-	To arrange celebration for soldiers	Town Records, VI, p. 52
Mar. 5, 1923	8	To consider new fire truck	Ibid., VII, p. 133
Mar. 4, 1929	-	To seek better transportation	Ibid., VIII, p. 84
Feb. 21, 1925	6	To investigate building laws	Ibid., VII, p. 192
1930	5	To recommend fire department improvements	Annual Reports, 1930, p. 159
1932		To distribute food (Holbrook Welfare Association.)	Ibid., 1932, p. 69
1932	5	To decorate veterans' graves	Ibid., p. 91
1934	3	To report on Civilian Conservation Corps	Ibid., 1934, p. 75
1934	4	To investigate garbage disposal	Ibid., p. 87
Aug. 27, 1934	6	To secure ERA funds for building school	Town Records, VIII, p. 189
1936	6	To act as Franklin School Building Committee	Annual Reports, 1936, p. 158
1936	5	To consider purchase of fire truck	Ibid., p. 4
1937	5	To purchase motor truck	Town Records, VIII, p. 268

Records System[1]

As in most Massachusetts towns, the town clerk is the center of the record-keeping system. However, the selectmen seem to share this position as well, since their additional function as board of public welfare entails the keeping of many records and brings the total number of records kept by them to a figure approximating that of the town clerk.

1. For an account of the system of record keeping in general use in all Massachusetts towns, see Town and City Government in Massachusetts, op. cit.

Several departments lack minutes of meetings, notably the water commissioners and park commissioners. It is recommended that such a record be established by them. Other departments show serious deficiencies in the continuity of this type of record. The registrars of voters for example, have kept no minutes since 1904. Although a separate board of assessors has been in office since 1898, nevertheless, minutes of meetings date only from 1936 to the present. The school committee, organized in 1872, shows minutes from 1928 to the present; the trustees of the public library, elected in 1873, have kept minutes from 1913 to date; and the board of health, of which first mention is made in the town records in 1878, shows minutes of meetings dating from 1934 to the present.

The records appear to be adequately indexed, with the possible exceptions of entries 78 (town clerk) and 211 (police department). The former would best be served by the addition of a grantee index; the latter, by an alphabetical index of persons arrested.

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1930	5	To recommend fire department improvements	Annual Reports, 1930, p. 159
1932		To distribute food (Holbrook Welfare Association.)	Ibid., 1932, p. 69
1932	5	To decorate veterans' graves	Ibid., p. 91
1934	3	To report on Civilian Conservation Corps	Ibid., 1934, p. 75
1934	4	To investigate garbage disposal	Ibid., p. 87
Aug. 27, 1934	6	To secure ERA funds for building school	Town Records, VIII, p. 189
1936	6	To act as Franklin School Building Committee	Annual Reports, 1936, p. 158
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First entry p. 55

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HOUSING, CARE AND ACCESSIBILITY OF RECORDS

The records of most of the major officers of Holbrook are housed in the Town Hall, a red brick building built in 1878. The structure contains the town office, selectmen's room, assessors' office, water department, and public library. There are vaults of fire-resistant material with thick steel outer doors and sheet-steel inner doors on the first floor and in the basement. Neither of these is adequate to accommodate the records; the first-floor vault is so crowded that some of the accountant's records must be kept outside of it; some of the records of the town clerk must be kept at her home, and the treasurer must keep his canceled checks in the general office where the danger of damage in case of fire is considerably greater than in the vaults. The basement vault is a good storage place, but is not readily accessible. For this reason no current records or others that have to be used frequently can be kept there.

There are some records kept in the selectmen's room, which is not fire-resistant. This is also the depository of the public welfare and WPA records. In this room the records of old age assistance and aid to dependent children are kept in filing cabinets only partially protected from fire.

The water department office on the first floor houses some of the records of that department and of the tax collector. Both have additional records in the basement vault. The shelving and containers are of wood and steel, but the records are not housed under completely fire-resistant conditions. On the same floor are the assessors' office and the public library. The records of the assessors are kept in their office in steel containers, but the office is not fireproof. The library has a card index to all its books in a wooden file in the center of the reading room. The records of other departments are kept either in one of the two vaults or in the town office.

All of the depositories need either improvement or enlargement. The first floor vault apparently has little room for expansion, but the basement vault could be both expanded and rearranged for greater accessibility. Fire-proof facilities for housing the records are recommended for the selectmen's room, the water department office, assessors' office and the public library; the latter, in addition, needs more modern, fireproof housing for its extensive index system. Lighting is good in all the depositories, as is the general physical condition. Wooden shelving in the water department office should be replaced with steel shelves or cabinets. The trustees of the public library state that for some years there has been a movement to obtain more space for the library and the reading room; another room for the library is recommended. Inasmuch as a recent ruling of the state department of public welfare specifies that the offices of local welfare bureaus are to be kept separate from other offices whenever the town has more than one hundred cases (including old age assistance) a distinct office for this department in the near future is advisable.

First entry p. 55

HOLBROOK TOWN HALL, North Franklin Street

Depository	Town Vault	Bsmt. Vault	Selectmen's Room	Town Office
Location	First floor	Bsmt	First floor	First floor
Dimensions LxWxH	6'x6'x7'	6'x8½'x6'	25'x12'x20'	25'x20'x20'
Cubic Feet	252	306	6000	10000
Fire-resistant	Yes	Yes	No	No
Containers	Steel	Steel	Steel	Wood & Steel
Lighting	Good	Good	Good	Good
Physical Condition	Good	Good	Good	Good
Accessibility	Good	Poor	Good	Good
Arrangement	Good	Good	Good	Good
Room for Expansion	None	Good	None	Good
Departments using	See footnote[1]	See footnote[2]	Selectmen Overseers WPA co-ordinator	Selectmen Treasurer Board of Health Town clerk

Depository	Assessors' Office	Water Office	Pub. Lib. Read. Room
Location	First floor	First floor	First floor
Dimensions LxWxH	20'x10'x20'	25'x10'x20'	45'x60'x20'
Cubic Feet	4000	5000	54000
Fire-resistant	No	No	No
Containers	Steel	Wood & Steel	Wood & Steel
Lighting	Good	Good	Good
Physical Condition	Good	Good	Good
Accessibility	Good	Good	Good
Arrangement	Good	Good	Good
Room for Expansion	Good	Good	Poor
Departments using	Assessors	Water Dept. Tax collector	Library

1 Depts using Town Vault: Selectmen, town clerk, assessors, registrars of voters, treasurer, board of public welfare, town accountant, sealer of weights and measures.

2. Depts using Basement Vault: Selectmen, town clerk, assessors, board of public welfare, treasurer, town accountant, sealer of weights and measures, water department, tax collector.

First entry p. 55

Housing, Care and
Accessibility of Records

All of the fire and police department records are housed in a room in the rear of the enginehouse. The enginehouse offers ample room for future storage of records, and some protection against possible damage by fire. There is one metal filing cabinet, in which the records have been arranged in an orderly manner.

The building is of brick, two-storied, with engine room and offices of the police and fire chiefs on the first floor and sleeping quarters for a permanent man on the second floor. The building was erected in 1881. Recommendations have already been made, in town and committee meetings, that the chief of police be given another room for the use of his department. Such an arrangement would afford greater privacy to the police department records. It is also suggested that heavier metal containers be secured both for the police and fire records.

HOLBROOK FIRE STATION, NORTH FRANKLIN STREET

Depository	Rear Room
Location	First floor
Dimensions LxWxH	10'x10'x20'
Cubic Feet	2000
Containers	Wood & Steel
Lighting	Poor
Physical Condition	Poor
Accessibility	Poor
Arrangement	Poor
Room for Expansion	Yes[1]
Departments using	Police, Fire

Original records dealing with the Holbrook schools are housed in the principal's office in the Franklin School on North Franklin Street in Holbrook. The superintendent's records are kept in his office at Stetson Hall, Randolph. Here are also kept duplicates of cards and other records, the originals of which are in Holbrook. The school nurse keeps her records apart from the other school records and submits reports to the superintendent's office at Randolph.

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1. Expansion possible by use of enginehouse, another room for police dept.

Housing, Care and Accessibility of Records

First entry p. 55

FRANKLIN SCHOOL, HOLBROOK AND STETSON HALL, RANDOLPH

Depository	Prin. Off. Franklin School, Holbrook	Supt. Off. Stetson Hall, Randolph
Location	2nd Floor	1st Floor
Dimensions LxWxH	20'x15'x15'	15'x10'x10'
Cubic Feet	4500	1500
Containers	Wood	Wood
Lighting	Good	Good
Physical Condition	Good	Good
Accessibility	Good	Good
Arrangement	Good	Good
Room for Expansion	Ample	None
Departments using	Holbrook Schools	Joint Supt.

Town officials having records in their homes or offices at the time of the inventory were:-

Name	Address ***	Office Held	Records of
Ernest C. Poole	276 Plymouth Street	Insp. of Animals	Insp. of Animals
George Dornan	3 Pleasant Street	Sec. of Fin. Com.	Finance Com.
Norman F. Baker	23 Winter Street	Sec. of Sch. Com.	School Com.
Louis R. Chase	28 Adams Street	Clerk of Sch. Com.	School Com.
Herbert W. Beals	115 Belcher Street	Tree Warden	Tree Warden
Emily T. McGaughey	453 N. Franklin St.	Town Clerk	Town Clerk

***All addresses are in Holbrook, Mass.

Part B. TOWN OFFICERS AND THEIR RECORDS

I. SELECTMEN AND BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE[1]

When three selectmen were elected at the first town meeting in 1872, it was voted by the town that they should also hold the offices of overseers of the poor and assessors.[2] They have remained in charge of the public welfare to the present time;[3] the position of assessors was finally separated from that of selectmen in 1908.[4] Once before 1908 the assessors and selectmen had been separate offices, namely in 1896;[5] two years after that it had been voted to abolish the office of assessors entirely,[6] but at a later meeting a legal opinion was given on the matter and the warrant for the following town meeting again called for the election of three men to serve as assessors, selectmen and overseers.[7]

In the beginning the powers of the selectmen extended over most of the corporate affairs of the town. At the first meeting they were authorized to appoint a town physician, to name three highway surveyors and other officers. The warrant called for the town to take action on the question of "enjines and enjine-men" for the fire department, and this matter was left to the selectmen, as was the question of securing a reservoir for fire use and investigation into the possibility of obtaining a water supply.[8] The bylaws enacted in 1872 specified that no money should be paid by the treasurer except with the consent of the selectmen; they were given authority to appear as counsel for the town or to engage counsel if they deemed it necessary, also to prepare lists of jurors.[9] Later during 1872 they were authorized to appear for the town in the settlement with Randolph of the corporate property involved in the separation of the two towns.[10] They were given the duty of naming streets and were chosen a building committee for a new school.[11] Many of the powers granted to the selectmen during the first year are still held by them.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 14
3. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 3
4. Town Records, VI, p. 4
5. Ibid., IV, p. 113
6. Ibid., p. 163
7. Idem
8. Ibid., I, pp. 14-34
9. Bylaws, art. VI, in Annual Reports, 1873
10. Town Records, I, p. 20
11. Ibid., p. 34

Selectmen and Board of Public Welfare

First entry p. 55

Two important activities in connection with protection were undertaken by the selectmen in 1873; they secured a hook-and-ladder truck for the fire engineers[1] and appointed a special policeman.[2] In 1875 they were made a committee to look into the matter of purchasing a poorhouse[3] and the following year were given an appropriation with which to build bridges and railings.[4] In 1878 they were empowered to appoint more than one night watchman if they so decided.[5] The same year they were instructed to purchase 1,500 feet of hose for the steamer-wagon of the fire department.[6]

The authorization to buy a poor farm was given the selectmen in 1880;[7] in 1881 they were instructed to let out the building of a street on contract,[8] and were given joint or separate authority with the school committee to employ three truant officers.[9] Several times before that year they had exercised their power to grant licenses,[10] and in that year they posted a $500 reward for the apprehension of a felon.[11] They were instructed in 1882 to employ a night watch,[12] and in 1883 to enlarge the Brookville fire house.[13]

The selectmen had purchased a gravel pit for the town in 1875;[14] in 1884 they were authorized to sell the standing timber in the pit at auction,[15] and in 1889 were instructed to sell at auction such town lands as were deemed advisable.[16] In 1888 they had been empowered to protect the best interests of the town in the settlement of a division of property between Holbrook and Avon near the Avon depot.[17] When the Old Colony Railroad proposed certain street changes in 1889, the selectmen were instructed to register the town's opposition.[18]

The town had voted on April 5, 1875, to authorize the selectmen to purchase a bell to be placed on the Congregational Church and to sound the fire alarm.[19] In 1894 it was voted to appropriate $950 to extend the fire-alarm system, the selectmen to have charge of the spending of the money.[20] The property of the fire department, however, was in the hands of the engineers; the selectmen had no control of it after 1886.[21] After 1902, however, they appointed a superintendent of fire alarms.[22]

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1. Town Records, I, p. 62
2. Ibid., p. 63
3. Ibid., p. 114
4. Ibid., p. 131
5. Ibid., II, p. 3
6. Ibid., p. 11
7. Ibid., p. 48
8. Ibid., p. 72
9. Ibid., p. 74
10. Ibid., pp. 8, 78, 79
11. Ibid., p. 89
12. Town Records, II, p. 110
13. Ibid., p. 135
14. Ibid., I, p. 107
15. Ibid., II, p. 180
16. Ibid., III, p. 113
17. Ibid., p. 89
18. Ibid., p. 101
19. Ibid., I, p. 108
20. Ibid., IV, p. 63
21. Ibid., III, p. 34
22. Ibid., V, p. 61

First entry p. 55

Selectmen and Board of Public Welfare

The selectmen acted for the town in a number of matters involving transportation and public utilities during the town's first years, in addition to appearances they made before the General Court and various state commissions. In 1894, and again in 1896, they presented petitions to the state highway commission asking that Holbrook streets be used as state highways.[1] They were ordered to appear with the school committee before the legislature in 1897 to ask for a "one mill on the dollar" tax arrangement which, it was felt, would bring more industries to the town.[2] In 1898 the selectmen were empowered to act as a committee to attempt to secure lower railroad rates;[3] in 1900 and again in 1902 they were authorized to appear before the General Court if the railroad would not agree to make a reduction in fares.[4] The selectmen made an effort to ascertain the cost of lighting the streets in 1895, but reported to the meeting that year that they had been unable to do so.[5] In 1901, and again in 1907, they gave permission to the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company to erect poles and run wires through the town.[6] In 1900 the meeting instructed the selectmen to prepare a franchise for a street railway to run from the Randolph to the Weymouth town lines.[7]

The selectmen at first had had complete authority over the appointment of the highway surveyors.[8] A change in this condition had come in 1876, when it was voted to set up six highway districts with one person in charge of each, and a special committee on highways had been appointed to nominate them.[9] In 1885, however, full control over the highways was given to the selectmen, but immediately rescinded.[10] On April 2, 1888, care of the roads again passed to the selectmen.[11] In 1890 they appointed a superintendent of streets,[12] and still continue to do so. The selectmen appointed three forest wardens in 1901.[13] In several years the selectmen have been members of committees appointed to consider or purchase new fire apparatus.[14]

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1. Town Records, IV, pp. 78, 125
2. Ibid., p 142
3. Ibid., p. 161
4. Ibid., V, pp. 35, 83
5. Ibid., IV, p 103
6. Ibid., V, pp 59, 182
7. Ibid., p 45
8. Ibid., I, p 16
9. Ibid , pp 129-131 incl.
10. Ibid., III, pp. 7-9 incl.
11. Ibid., p 73
12. Ibid., p. 142
13. Ibid., V, p. 61
14. Annual Reports, 1902, p 58

Selectmen and Board
of Public Welfare

First entry p. 55

Brookville was set off as a separate voting precinct of the town after the selectmen had been instructed to divide the north and south sections of Holbrook. While the original order for this action was given in 1902,[1] final acceptance of the new precinct came at the meeting of August 26, 1913.[2] The selectmen were ordered to find a dumping-ground in 1915.[3] Previous to 1915 the accounts of the town departments had been submitted each year to a board of three auditors. In that year, however, a municipal accountant audited the books of the town and made a recommendation that a new system be installed which would permit the selectmen at all times to know the town's financial condition.[4] A meeting on August 31, 1915 gave the selectmen authority to appoint an auditor each year.[5] This system remained until 1923;[6] since 1924 the selectmen have appointed the accountant for three-year terms.[7]

Since 1938 the selectmen have served as a retirement board under the provisions of Chapter 32 of the General Laws.[8]

The three selectmen are still elected annually,[9] their yearly reports being made at the first March town meeting in each year. Not the least important of the selectmen's duties is that requiring them to distribute the annual town reports to each inhabitant of the town at least three days before the annual town meeting.[10]

Since the first town meeting in 1872, the selectmen have had charge of relief in Holbrook.[11] As overseers of the poor in that year they cared for ten persons needing aid, including two sent to an insane asylum and two "military paupers." The overseers also cared for 31 'travelers' listed as state paupers.[12]

The three overseers resigned in a body from their office at a meeting on April 15, 1878. A motion was put through refusing to accept the resignations, but was reconsidered on the basis that the resignation was legal since the overseers had already served one term. It was then voted immediately to elect a new board.[13]

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1. Town Records, V, p. 83
2. Ibid., VI, p. 114
3. Ibid., p. 155
4. Ibid., p. 160
5. Annual Reports, 1916, pp. 4, 187
6. Ibid., 1916-1923 passim; Town Records, VI, p. 124
7. Annual Reports, 1925, pp. 7, 56; Town Records, VII, p. 174
8. General Laws, 1932, chap. 32, secs. 56-59 incl.
9. Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 265-66
10. Bylaws, art. XI, in Annual Reports, 1939
11. Town Records, I, p. 14 et seq.
12. Annual Reports, 1873, pp. 28-30 incl.
13. Town Records, II, p. 10

First entry p. 55

Selectmen and Board of Public Welfare

The overseers were known as overseers of the poor until 1927; the title was changed in that year to overseers of the public welfare,[1] and again in 1929 to board of public welfare.[2] This is the title now used in the town reports.[3] Until 1908 the selectmen-overseers were also the assessors.[4]

The overseers were authorized to act as a committee to investigate the possibility of purchasing a poorhouse in 1875.[5] At the first annual meeting the selectmen had been authorized to employ a town physician;[6] in 1892 it was voted to place this appointment in the hands of the overseers.[7] In 1899 they were empowered to fix the salary of the physician; a similar vote was taken in 1901 and other years.[8] The matter of securing a poorhouse was taken up again in 1880, when the selectmen were authorized on April 5th to purchase a town farm.[9]

When the town was given a fund of $5,000 by Ellen M. Spear in 1912 to be used to care for the indigent, the overseers were authorized to place it in trust and draw its income.[10] By 1920 the mounting cost of care of tubercular cases caused an expenditure of $587 for this one item in the relief load.[11]

Since 1933 the board has helped provide the town with Civilian Works Administration, Emergency Relief Administration, Works Progress Administration and other federally-aided projects. In 1933 an account of CWA work done during the year was delivered by the chairman of the board; he reported $14,000 received by the town that year.[12] The board reported in 1938 that this figure had reached a high total of $54,776 in wages paid to town residents;[13] it was somewhat lower in 1939.[14]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the town office, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street.

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1. Town Records, VIII, p. 23
2. Ibid., p. 75
3. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 3
4. Town Records, VI, p. 4
5. Ibid., I, p. 114
6. Ibid., p. 17
7. Ibid., IV, p. 6
8. Ibid., V, p. 57 et seq.
9. Ibid., II, p. 48
10. Ibid., VI, p. 86
11. Annual Reports, 1920, p. 43
12. Ibid., 1933, pp. 109, 110
13. Ibid., 1938, p. 103
14. Ibid., 1939, p. 115

Selectmen and Board of Public Welfare [1-2]

Minutes and Reports
(See also entry 69)

1. RECORDS (Minutes of Meetings of) BOARD OF SELECTMEN, TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872--. 4 vols. (dated). Missing: 1873-77.
Discussion of award of contracts for town projects, appointments of officers and committees, acceptance of officials' bonds, grant of permits and licenses, approval of treasury warrants, hearings on petitions, selection of jurors; time, place, date of meeting. Also contains:

i. Award of contracts, record of, 1914: Name of contractor; nature, price, quantity of commodity to be supplied; place of delivery, date of contract.

ii. Notice to abutters of hearing on land taking, copy of, 1926: Names of abutters, petitioners; provisions of petition, citation of law; time, place, date of notice; signature of clerk of selectmen.

iii. Order of selectmen relative to speed and parking of motor vehicles, copy of, 1914: Name of street, location of signs, parking, speed limit; date of order, signature of selectmen.

iv. Perambulation of Town Lines, 1914, entry 25.

v. Petition for reduction of street-car fare, 1935: Names of petitioners, extent of territory included in reduction area, amount of reduction, benefits derived, date of petition.

vi. Resignations of town officials, 1915: Name of town, State; name, title of official; cause, date of resignation; signature of resigning official.

Arr. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 30 pp. 14 x 9 x 1½. 3 vols., 1872-1913, bsmt. va., T. H.; 1 vol., 1914--, va.

2. HOLBROOK TOWN REPORTS, 1873--. 10 vols. (8 vols., 1873-1937, 1-8, dated; 2 vols., 1938--, dated).
Annual published reports of town departments and officers and other miscellaneous reports as described in entries 3, 28, 69, 96, 105, 120, 131, 133, 137, 146-148, 152, 160, 183, 186-188, 199, 204, 205, 207, 209, 210, 218, 226, 229, 230, 240, 241. Also contains:

i. Aid to poor: Narrative report of increase or decrease in number of persons aided, changes in state laws affecting aid; recommendations. Also includes total expenditure for aid; amount due, refunded from State, other towns, individuals, 1873-1924. 1873-1909 includes name of recipient, payee; amount, type of aid. 1918-24 includes total expenditure for mothers' aid.

ii. Bylaws, 1873, 1884-95, 1897--: Title, text of bylaw; date of adoption by town meeting, certification of town clerk; certification, date of approval or rejection by county superior court or state attorney general.

iii. Charter, 1873: Copy of act incorporating the town of Holbrook.

iv. Committee reports relative to:

a. Braintree records, 1885: Report of committee appointed with committees of Quincy, Randolph, and Braintree to

investigate the expediency of printing the original Braintree records down to the division of the town in 1793; estimated cost of copying, printing, indexing, and editing; apportionment of cost among the four towns according to population, recommended article for insertion in town warrant for action by town in regard to printing records.

b. Brookville schoolhouse, 1902: Table of cost of erection, showing name of payee; amount, purpose of payment; total cost. Includes recommendations for additions to building.

c. Christmas tree, 1916: Report of Holbrook Athletic Association, showing amount of contribution to tree fund, name of contributor, purpose of expenditure, name of payee; total receipts, expenditures, balance.

d. Division of town property, 1873: Joint report of selectmen of Holbrook and Randolph, acting as committee to settle division of corporate property of the town of Randolph; description, valuation of property; terms of division, amount of reimbursement due Randolph.

e. Electric light and power survey, 1938-39: Report of committee chosen to investigate the advisability of establishing a municipal light and power plant, comparison of rates paid by Holbrook residents with rates paid by residents of municipalities owning plants. Includes notice of suspension of survey.

f. Fire trucks, purchase of, 1937: Report of acceptance of bids, award of contract; price, description of truck purchased and turned over to fire chief.

g. Franklin School, 1936: Report of erection of new schoolhouse in connection with Federal Emergency Relief Administration; table showing amount of appropriation, federal grant, expenditure, net cost to town.

h. Garbage disposal, 1934: Report of committee recommending postponement of action.

j. High-school building, construction of, 1928: Report of acceptance of bids, award of contract, appointment of architect; date of commencement, completion of construction; amount of appropriation, itemization of expenditures, unexpended balance.

k. Lower tax rate, 1897: Report of committee appointed to investigate possibility of lowering town tax rate; recommendations for reducing expenditures, decreasing or abolishing salaries of town officers.

l. Monument, 1916-17: Report of organization of committee to erect monument to soldiers and sailors, selection

of design, award of contract, 1916. Treasurer's itemization of receipts from subscriptions, town appropriation; expenditures for monument and dedicatory exercises, 1917.

m. Motor ladder truck, 1930: Report of survey of fire hazards, present fire-fighting equipment; recommendation that new truck be purchased.

n. Public safety (World War), 1917: Report of recruiting meetings, sale of Liberty bonds, collections for soldiers' library and YMCA funds, miscellaneous war-time activities.

o. Repair of Brookville Engine House, 1915: Description of work done, itemization of expenditures.

p. School buildings and accomodations, 1925: Report on lack of seating capacity, tables of enrollment by schools and by grades, recommendation for new building.

q. Special Aid Society, Holbrook Chapter, 1918: Number of garments made for soldiers, contributions to Red Cross.

r. Town Hall, 1879: Itemized account of expenditures incurred in erection of new Town Hall.

v. Federal relief agencies:

a. Civilian Conservation Corps, 1934: Narrative report showing number of men enrolled, place of encampment, terms of enrollment.

b. Civilian Works Administration, 1933: Emergency Relief Administration, 1934-35; Works Progress Administration, 1936-39; Work Projects Administration, 1939--: Narrative report of operation and cost of projects; number, description of articles of food and clothing distributed.

vi. Historical sketch, 1926: Brief sketch written by Walter Cushing Belcher, describing the establishment of the town and subsequent changes in territory.

vii. Holbrook Welfare Association, 1932-33: Narrative report on formation and functions of association; total value, source, kinds of gifts received and distributed.

viii. Jury list: Names of residents eligible for jury duty. 1897-- includes occupations of residents.

ix. Randolph, historical sketch of the division of, 1873: Report of organization, meetings, and activities of committees chosen to effect the establishment of East Randolph as the Town of Holbrook.

x. Selectmen's report:

a. Burial of indigent soldiers, 1901-9: Name of soldier, cost of burial.

b. Financial report, 1873-1924: Appropriations classified by type of governmental activity, showing amount,

purpose of appropriation for current, ensuing year; expenditures, showing name of department or account, amount and purpose of expenditure, recapitulation of total expenditures by account; receipts, showing amount and source of receipt, total. 1925-- in (Annual Report of Auditors, Accountant), entry 120.

c. Guide boards, 1890: Report on location, condition of guide boards.

d. State and military aid, 1877-1924: Total amount of aid granted. 1877-1909 includes name of recipient, amount of aid. 1925-- in (Annual Report of Auditors, Accountant), entry 120. For record of recipients of state aid, kept by treasurer, Jan. 1915 - Apr. 1917, see entry 119.

xi. Soldiers' relief, 1894-1924: Total amount of aid granted. 1894-1909 includes name of recipient, amount of aid. 1925-- in (Annual Report of Auditors, Accountant), entry 120. For record of recipients, kept by treasurer, January 1915 - April 1917, see entry 119.

xii. Spear fund, 1912: Report of offer by Ellen M. Spear of $5,000, accepted by town meeting, to establish fund for aid of poor in addition to regular town appropriation. Includes report of investment

xiii. Street railway franchise: Copy of franchise granted to East Side Street Railway Company, 1891; Brockton and Holbrook Street Railway Company, 1892; Braintree Street Railway Company, 1893; Randolph, Holbrook, and Nantasket Beach Street Railway Company, 1896; Boston, Quincy, and Fall River Bicycle Railway Company, 1898; Old Colony Street Railway Company, 1905.

xiv. Warrant for town meeting, 1875--: Text of articles to be voted on, names of elective offices to be filled, amounts recommended for appropriation; time, place, date of meeting; instructions to constables. 1928-- includes recommendations of finance committee.

Arr. by year and thereunder by subject. 1873-89, no index; 1890--, indexed alph. by subject. Ptd. 230 pp. 9½ x 5½ x ½ to 1600 pp. 9½ x 5½ x 3. State Lib., State House, Boston. (16 vols., 1873--, also in town off. va., first fl., T. H.)

3. (ANNUAL REPORT OF STATE AUDIT), 1924--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.

Report of assistant state director of accounts to director, forwarded to selectmen, certifying examination and verification of all town accounts. Includes reconciliation of town trust funds. 1926-- includes reconciliation of town treasurer's cash, showing type of transaction and amount; table of general debit accounts, table of balances.

Highways
(See also entry 7-iii,-iv)

4. PETITIONS AND GRANTS - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872--. 1 bdl., 1 env. (1 bdl., 1872--, dated; 1 env., 1923, unlabeled).

Contains:

i. Acceptance of street from town for state highway, 1927: Copy of request for acceptance; location, boundaries of street; acceptance by state commissioner of public works, attestation of town clerk.

ii. Approval by county commissioners of petition to relocate road, 1885: Names of petitioners, abutters, commissioners, copy of petition, manner of service; time, place of hearing, subsequent meetings; action taken at hearing; description, boundaries of relocation; plan reference, time of completion of work, estimation of land damages, permission to abutters to remove timbers, time of removal; dates of hearing, meetings, grant, signature of chairman of county commissioners.

iii. County commissioners' return for street relocation, 1916: Names of petitioners, copy of petition; order of notice for hearing, view of location; time, place of hearing; commissioners' order for relocation, description of new boundaries, type of construction; amount of relocation expenses, award to abutters; dates of petition, hearing, commissioners' meeting and order, receipt and recording of return; signatures of selectmen, commissioners, clerk of commissioners and town clerk; attestation of clerk of commissioners.

iv. Grant of street railway franchise, 1893: Name of railway company, names of streets; type, specifications of equipment; location of rails, turnouts; boundaries of terminals; obligations, liabilities of railway company; date of acceptance, recording, filing of grant; signatures of selectmen, town clerk, directors of railway company.

v. Notice of hearing on proposed street, 1884: Names of town officials, abutters; location, boundaries of proposed street; statement of proposed lay-out, land-taking, public hearing; time, place, date of hearing; signatures of road commissioners. Reverse contains constable's return on notice, 1884: Names of town, county, abutters, constable, road commissioners; place, manner, date of service; time, date of return; signature of officer.

vi. Notice of intention of state department of public works to alter and lay out road, 1926: Name of town, street; plan reference, statement of authority to alter street, description of proposed alteration; provision for filing certified copies of notice, statement of land damages, number of lay-out; date of notice, acceptance of highway by State; signature of commissioner of public works, attestation of recording secretary.

vii. Order of notice to persons interested in hearing on relocation of road, 1885: Name of town, State, county; order of action at hearing; manner of service of petition, order; name, address of newspaper publishing; time of publication, date of meeting of county commissioners; signature, attestation of clerk of county commissioners; time, date of filing notice with town clerk; signature of town clerk.

viii. Permit (copy) for buried cable location, 1937: Name of petitioner, order to lay cable, authorization for underground conduits, location, indemnification agreement; date of certificate, receipt, recording of permit; signature of clerk of selectmen, attestation of town clerk.

ix. Permit (copy) for erection and maintenance of poles by telephone company, 1893: Name of petitioner, town; authorization by selectmen to erect and maintain poles, wires, fixtures; location, specifications of poles; date of original petition, permit, recording, certification of permit; place, time of certification of permit; place, time of certification; signatures of selectmen.

x. Permit (copy) for joint pole locations, 1922: Names of petitioners, authorization by selectmen for joint locations; pole locations, construction specifications; date of certification, recording; signature of chairman of board of selectmen; attestation of town clerk, volume and page reference to Street Records - Town of Holbrook, entry 5.

xi. Permit (copy) to change existing pole locations, 1914: Name of town, specifications of change, proposed new locations, authorization for change; date of petition, permit, recording; signature of clerk of selectmen, town clerk; volume and page reference to Street Records - Town of Holbrook, entry 5.

xii. Permit (copy) to electric light company to erect and remove poles, 1927: Name of petitioner, location of poles; date of permit, certification, recording; signatures of selectmen and town clerk.

xiii. Petition and order for electric light company to take land, 1926: Names of towns in which land is located, statement of authority for action, order of state department of public utilities as to necessity for taking, description of land, purpose of taking, specifications for equipment, rules for construction, list of land parcels taken, location of boundaries, date of petition; seal, signature of assistant secretary of state department of public utilities.

xiv. Petition by railroad to county commissioners to lay out street, 1888: Name, address of petitioner; names of commissioners, town, State; location, boundaries of proposed street; purpose, date of petition; signature of petitioner.

xv. Petition by utility companies for joint pole locations, 1921: Names of petitioners, streets; locations of streets, poles; date of petition, plan, signatures of petitioners.

xvi. Petition to county commissioners for relocation of road, 1885: Names, addresses, voting status of petitioners; names of abutters, town; purpose, date of petition; signatures of petitioners.

xvii. Petition to road commissioners for street construction, 1884: Names, addresses of petitioners; location of proposed street, reason for petition, request to commissioners to view location; time, date of filing of petition; signature of town clerk.

xviii. Report of road commissioners to selectmen on street taking, 1884: Names of abutters, proposed name of street, action taken on petition, reason for report, boundaries of land taken, estimated land damages; place, date of filing of report; signatures of road commissioners.

xix. Return of order of notice for street relocations, 1885: Names of officials, town, State, county, order to file return and to forward copy to town clerk; time, place, date of hearing, recording; attestation of town clerk, signatures of county commissioners and town clerk.

Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. Bdl., 11¼ x 4½ x 5; env., 10 x 16.

5. STREET RECORDS - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872--. 2 vols.

Transcription of original documents described in Petitions and Grants - Town of Holbrook, entry 4. Arr. alph. by name of petitioner or grantee. No index. Hdw. 260 pp. 15 x 11 x 1½. 1 vol., 1872-79, bsmt. va., T. H.; 1 vol., 1880--, va.

6. INDEX TO THE (Street Construction) RECORDS, 1793-1877. 1 vol. (dated).

Index to records in the county commissioners' office at Dedham regarding street construction in Holbrook: Name of street, volume and page reference. Arr. alph. by name of town and thereunder by date of street acceptance. No index. Ptd. 50 pp. 15¼ x 8 x ¼. Bsmt. va., T. H.

Legal Documents
(See also entry 45)

7. LAND ACQUISITIONS, 1854-1927. 1 bdl.

Contains original deeds, easements, releases, and land-takings of Randolph (1854-72) and Holbrook (1872-1927). Each instrument includes volume and page reference to recorded instrument in county registry of deeds.

i. Deeds: Name of grantor, grantee, town, county, State; description, location of property; place, time of recording of instrument; date of deed; signature of grantor, spouse. Includes acknowledgment: Attestation, date of act; signature, seal of notary public.

ii. Easements, 1915-27: Name, address of grantor, grantee; name of county; description, location, boundaries of easement granted;

date of grant; time, date of recording of instrument; signature of grantor, county register of deeds. Includes acknowledgment: Attestation, date of act; signature of notary public.

iii. Land-taking orders for street relocations, 1924-27: Names of land owners, town, State; description of street to be relocated, new bounds; estimated damages, awards to abutters, citation of law authorizing takings and relocations; time, place, date of recording of instrument; date of selectmen's meeting, attestation by town clerk; signatures of selectmen and county register of deeds.

iv. Releases by grantors of land for proposed street lay-outs, 1890-1927: Name of town, State, county, grantor; location, dimensions of land released; description of bounds of proposed lay-outs, release of town from liability for land-taking; date of release, signature of grantor, spouse, exact time, date of recording of instrument; signature of county register of deeds. Includes acknowledgment: Attestation, date of act; signature of justice of the peace.

Arr. by date of instrument. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 x $\frac{1}{4}$. Va.

8. (Miscellaneous) LEGAL DOCUMENTS, 1878-1924. 1 bdl. (dated). Contains:

i. Bonds: Names, addresses of principal, sureties, bondholder; amount, conditions, date of bond; signatures of principal, sureties, witnesses, bondholder.

ii. Contracts: Names, addresses of contracting parties; terms, conditions, amount of consideration of contract; date of commencement, termination of work; signatures of contracting parties, date of contract.

iii. Discharge of mortgage, 1890-1924: Name of mortgagor, mortgagee, town, county; acknowledgment of full payment, volume and page reference to recorded instrument in county registry of deeds; date of discharge; signatures of mortgagee, witnesses. Includes acknowledgment: Attestation, date of act, signature of justice of the peace.

iv. Leases, 1879-1924: Name of lessor, lessee; description, location of property; terms, date of lease; signature, seal of lessor, lessee.

v. Mortgages, 1884-1924: Name, address of mortgagor; name of mortgagee; description, encumbrances of property; conditions, date of mortgage; volume and page reference to recorded instrument in county registry of deeds; signature, seal of mortgagor; signature of witness. Includes acknowledgment: Attestation, date of act; signature of justice of the peace.

vi. Partnership assignment, 1898-1924: Names, addresses of partners; date of assignment, recording; signatures, seals of partners; signature of town clerk.

vii. Trustee writ, 1881-1924: Name of town, State, county, county court; name, address of plaintiff, defendant, trustee; amount of damages; purpose, date of writ; signature of clerk of court, deputy sheriff. Includes summary of costs showing name of plaintiff, defendant, trustee; statement of costs and fees; number, date of writ; signature of plaintiff, defendant. Also includes officer's return: Name of county, description of property attached; number, date of writ; manner, date of service; date of return, signature of deputy sheriff.

Arr. by date of document. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 6½ x 9 x 2. Va.

Public Welfare Records
(See also entry 2-i,-v,-vii,-x d,-xi,-xii)

9. PUBLIC WELFARE (Records), 1872--. 2 file drawers.

Individual folders containing all papers relating to each case:

i. Acknowledgment of settlement: Name of town giving aid, town of settlement; name of recipient, acknowledgment of notice of settlement, admission of legal settlement by outside town, date of notice; acknowledgment, signature of welfare official.

ii. Aid to dependent children bill (copy): Name, address of welfare bureau; name, case number of aid recipient; number, amounts, period of payments; itemization of commodities and medical care furnished, burial expenses if any, total expense incurred, amount claimed from State, certification of statements; date of bill, notice, aid rendered; signature of welfare official.

iii. Application and first interview for aid to dependent children: Name, address, age, occupation, color, sex, place and date of birth, marital status, prior marriage of applicant, spouse; settlement history of applicant; number of rooms occupied, rent paid by applicant; place, date of death of spouse, if deceased; whether ever committed to institution or jail; names, sex, school and employment records, places and dates of birth of children; names, address, places and dates of birth of parents of applicant, spouse; names, addresses, ages of children; occupations, wages of brothers and sisters of applicant, spouse; date of entrance into State and town of applicant, spouse, parents; description, assessed value, location, date of purchase of real estate of applicant or family; amount of equity, mortgages on property; location, amount of cash or security owned by applicant or family; amount of insurance, weekly payments by applicant; name of insurance company, beneficiary; amount, date of insurance payments or other claims received at death of spouse; record of last employment, installment purchases by applicant, estimated income of applicant's family; number, date of application; name of visitor; affidavit, signature of applicant; signature of witness. Includes:

a. Record of family accepted for aid to dependent children: Name of State, county; name, address, year of birth, sex, citizenship of aid of recipient; size of community, previous residence, case number, status of aid, month of first check, amount of monthly aid; names, sex, color, relation to applicant, places and dates of birth of children aided; marital status, address of parents; total number in household, amount of other public assistance; date of application, approval.

b. Aid to dependent children notice: Name, address of welfare bureau; name, address of applicant; number of dependent children under 16 years of age, statement of investigation and fitness of applicant, amount of monthly or bimonthly aid, date of notice; date application approved, aid granted; signature of welfare official.

iv. Bill (copy) to other towns for outside aid: Name, address of welfare bureau; name, settlement status of aid recipient; amount, period, rate of payment; itemization of commodities and medical care furnished, burial expenses if any, total amount of aid given, certification of statements; date of bill, notice, aid rendered; signature of welfare official For records of accounts receivable for outside aid 1925--, see entry 127.

v. Case history of aid recipient. Name, present and previous addresses, sex, color, occupation, wages, habits, settlement status, place and date of birth, military record of recipient; number of persons in family, reason for application, record of property owned; names, addresses, ages, occupations, marital and settlement status, places and dates of birth of spouse, parents of spouse; names, addresses, ages, occupations, settlement status, places and dates of birth of parents of applicant; notice, case number; date of record, first grant of aid; date, manner of entry into country; date of death if deceased.

vi. Correspondence: Letters between department and State, other towns, and individuals regarding applications for relief, aid to dependent children, settlement status, reimbursements for aid rendered.

vii. Notice (copy) of dangerous disease: Name, address of welfare bureau, sick relief recipient; name of hospital, number of persons in family, amount of weekly aid, facts regarding settlement status, date of admittance to hospital; date of notice to state department of public welfare, local and state boards of health.

viii. Notice (copy) of temporary aid and sick state poor: Name of town, recipient; name, address of parents or guardian of minor; amount, kind, cause of aid; number of persons participating in

aid, nature of applicant's disease; name of and date of admission to hospital; serial number, date of notice; signature of welfare official.

ix. Notice (copy) to other town of outside aid: Name of town receiving notice, aid recipient; statement of aid given to recipient having settlement in other town, facts upon which claim is based, date of notice, signature of welfare official.

x. Return (copy) to state commissioner of state aid and pensions of military aid rendered: Name, regiment, company or vessel of veteran; amount of aid given, date of return; certification, signatures of selectmen. Includes oath: Attestation, date of act; signature of justice of the peace.

xi. Return (copy) to commissioner of state aid and pensions of state aid rendered: Name of town; name, regiment, company or vessel, class, monthly pension of veteran; given name, relationship of dependent drawing aid, amount of aid; date of return; certification, signatures of selectmen. Includes oath: Attestation, date of act; signature of justice of the peace.

xii. Soldiers' relief application: Name, address, occupation, settlement and marital status, military service record, physical condition, employability, place and date of birth of applicant; names, places and dates of birth of wife and children; name, address of last employer; reason for unemployment, length of applicant's residence in State, town; description, valuation of assets; amount, source of income of applicant, members of family; number, date of application; signature of applicant.

xiii. Soldiers' relief, record of aid rendered for: Name, address, age, number of dependents, case number of recipient; name, service record of veteran; length of residence in town, reason aid requested; itemization, date of aid given; date case opened, discharged. For record kept by treasurer January 1915 - April 1917, see entry 119.

xiv. Temporary aid bill (copy): Name, address of relief bureau; name, case number of recipient; amount, period of payment; list of commodities, medical care furnished; total amount, date of aid given; certification of statements; date of bill, notice, aid rendered; signature of welfare official.

Arr. by case no. For index to i-ix, xiv, see entry 10; for index to x-xiii, see entry 11. Hdw. or typed on ptd form. 11½ x 13 x 26. Cabinet.

10. (Card Index to) PUBLIC WELFARE (Records), 1872--. 1 file box. Index to i-ix, xiv in Public Welfare (Records), entry 9: Name, settlement status, case number of applicant; date of first grant of aid. Arr. alph. by name of applicant. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4 x 6 x 18. Cabinet.

11. (Card Index to) SOLDIER'S RELIEF, 1918--. 1 file box. Index to x-xiii in Public Welfare (Records), entry 9: Name, settlement status, case number of applicant; date of first grant of aid. Arr. alph. by name of applicant. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4 x 6 x 18. Va.

12. PAUPER REGISTER, 1872--. 4 vols. (1-4, dated).
Record of persons supported by town: Name of town; name, address, age, sex, color, marital status, employability, habits, mental condition, place and date of birth, case number of recipient; place, nature of settlement; places, dates of birth of parents; date of first grant of aid; nature, date of discharge; if deceased, age at death; remarks. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 50 pp. 17 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Va.

13. (RECORD OF NOTICES), 1916-27. 1 vol.
Record of notices to relief applicant granting or denying aid: Name, address, character of relief applicant; name of person receiving notice, bill; whether aid granted or denied; amount, date of notice. Arr. by date of notice. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 60 pp. 16 x 11 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Va.

14. (RECORD OF NOTICES OF AID DENIED), 1885-1907. 1 vol. System discont. 1907.
Name of town, official, applicant for relief; reason for denial; date of application, notice; signatures of overseers. Arr. by date of notice. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 8$\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x 1. Va.

15. POOR NOTICES, 1885-1931. 2 vols. (dated). System discont. 1931.
Record of notices sent to other towns relative to applications for aid made by persons having outside settlement: Name of town sending, receiving notice; names of officials of town of settlement; name, address, settlement condition of relief applicant; statement of liability for support, recommendation of overseers, basis for settlement claim; number, date of notice; signature of overseer. Arr. by notice no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 8$\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x $\frac{1}{4}$. Va.

16. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE, 1926--. 1 file drawer. Prior records destroyed.
Record of approval of state aid returns: Name of department, State, town making return; amount charged, allowed; citation of law governing return; allowance, approval date; signature of state commissioner of state aids. Arr. by date of approval. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4 x 10 x 14. Cabinet.

17. (COPIES OF WELFARE COMMODITY ORDERS), 1931--. 1 cardboard box, 8 vols. Prior records destroyed.
Name of recipient, town, addressee; type of commodity; amount, number, date of order; signatures of welfare board members. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. Vols., 50 pp. 4$\frac{1}{2}$ x 7$\frac{1}{4}$ x $\frac{1}{4}$; box, 11 x 13 x 17. 1 cardboard box, 1931-37, bsmt. va., T. H.; 8 vols., 1938--, town off.
For record of commodities issued to old age assistance recipients 1932--, see entry 21.

Old Age Assistance
(Assistance authorized by law 1931)

18. OLD AGE ASSISTANCE (Records), 1931--. 1 file drawer.
Folders containing the following case records:

i. Annual statement (copy) to state department of public welfare requesting reimbursement for grants of aid: Name, settlement status of aid recipient; number, amount, period of payment; list of commodities and medical care furnished, burial expenses if any; total expenses, deductions, net expense; certification of statements; date of aid, notification of aid to state department; signature of local official.

ii. Applicant's appeal (copy) to state board of appeal, bureau of old age assistance, from decision of local old age assistance bureau: Name, address, case number of applicant; reason for denial of application, appeal; request for investigation, decision, whether or not applicant requests personal hearing; date of application, appeal; signature of applicant.

iii. Application and first interview for old age assistance: Name, address, prior address, age, sex, place and date of birth, citizenship, marital and settlement status, employability, health record of applicant; name, address, place and date of birth of spouse; names, birthplaces of parents of applicant, spouse; names, addresses, ages, marital status of applicant's children; names, addresses, financial status of relatives of applicant; description, location, valuation of real and personal property; amount of insurance, results of investigation, date of application; signatures of applicant and witnesses. Includes:

a. Notification (copy) to state bureau of old age assistance of grant of aid: Name, address, settlement status of applicant; amount, nature of assistance; date of application, approval; signatures of members of local board.

iv. Bank report requested by and returned to welfare board: Name of town; name, address of bank, aid recipient; names, addresses, places and dates of birth of recipient's children; amounts of deposits, withdrawals; date of last withdrawal, closing account; date of report; signature of bank and welfare officials.

v. Bill (copy) to outside town for old age assistance rendered: For description, see i.

vi. Bond (copy) insuring reimbursement for aid received, recorded in county registry of deeds: Name, address of obligor; name of recipient, town treasurer; amount, conditions, dates of issue and payment of bond; signature of obligor, recipient, witness; signature of town treasurer approving bond, date of approval, volume and page reference to recorded bond in county registry of deeds, date of deed. Includes acknowledgment: Attestation, date of act; signature, seal of notary public; expiration date of commission.

vii. Certification of date of application for old age assistance: Name, address of applicant; name of town, date of application, signature of welfare official.

viii. Correspondence: Letters between town and State, other towns, individuals regarding applications for aid, determination of settlement, hearings, appeals.

ix. Denial of settlement, sent by town receiving notice of aid described in xii: Name of recipient, town granting aid, town denying settlement; statement of investigation and findings; cause, date of denial of settlement; signature of welfare official.

x. Monthly return (copy) to state bureau of old age assistance on rejected applications: Name of town; name, address of applicant; reason for denial, requirement for filing return, place, date of filing; date of return, signature of local welfare official.

xi. Mortgage (copy) on property of recipient: Name, address of mortgagor; name of town treasurer as mortgagee; consideration, amount, due date of mortgage; habendum clause; description, location of property; lot number; name of draftsman, date of plan filed in land court; recital of mortgage covenants; volume and page reference to recorded mortgage in county registry of deeds; time, place, date of recording; date of mortgage; signature of mortgagor, spouse, witness. Includes acknowledgment: Attestation, date of act; signature, seal of notary public; expiration date of commission.

xii. Notice (copy) of aid granted to persons having legal settlement in another town, sent to board of welfare of the town of settlement: Name of aid recipient, town of settlement; statement of facts upon which claim of settlement is based, date of notice, signature of welfare official.

xiii. Notice (copy) of deductions in aid, sent to state board of appeal, bureau of old age assistance: Name, address, case number of applicant; amount of monthly aid, citation of law governing notification, reason for deductions, date of notice, signature of welfare official.

xiv. Notification (copy) of reopened case, sent to state bureau of old age assistance: Name, address, settlement status of applicant; amount, nature, date of aid; statement of need, amount of legal reimbursement claimed by town, date of notice, signatures of board members, remarks.

xv. Report (copy) of relative of applicant requested by and returned to state bureau of old age assistance: Name of town; name, case number of applicant; name, address, relationship of relative; citation of law regarding support of parents, agreement or refusal of relative to contribute, amount of monthly payment if contributing, reason for refusal if not contributing, date of report; signature of state official, relative.

xvi. Social data cards (copies) prepared by social security board, filled out by local investigator, and filed in state office: Name, address, race, sex, citizenship, physical condition, marital status, place and date of birth of applicant; type of income, medical care received by applicant at time of interview, changes of address if any; status, number of case; date of application, approval; date of approval of first payment, date of last payment, total amount of assistance received; name of State, county; date of investigation; cause, date of discharge or rejection; signature of investigator.

xvii. Wage report sent to and returned by last employer of applicant: Name of town; name, address of employer; name, case number, previous occupation and position of applicant; verification of employment, statement of recent offer of employment; amounts, dates of wages for last ten weeks; cause, date of termination of employment; date of report; signature of welfare official, previous employer.

Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 19. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 11½ x 13 x 26.

19. (Index to) OLD AGE ASSISTANCE (Records), 1931--. 1 file drawer.

Name, place of settlement of applicant; case number, date of first grant of aid. Arr. alph. by name of applicant. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4 x 6 x 18. Cabinet.

20. (Current) REGISTER - OLD AGE ASSISTANCE, Apr. 1, 1938--. 1 vol.

Name of town; name, address, place of settlement, sex, color, social and marital status, mental condition, place and date of birth of aid recipient; case, registration number; birthplaces of parents; date of first, last grant of aid; disposition of case, remarks. Arr. alph. by name of recipient. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 45 pp. 17 x 11½ x ½. Va.

21. (RECORD OF COMMODITIES ISSUED), 1932--. 1 file drawer. System estab. 1932.

Name, address of aid recipient; number of persons in family; classification, amount, kind of commodity; date of aid. Arr. alph. by name of recipient. Indexed alph. by name of recipient. Hdw. on ptd. form. 5½ x 8½ x 14.

For copies of commodity orders issued to general welfare aid recipients 1931--, see entry 17.

Correspondence

22. (GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE), 1899--. 4 file boxes, 1 env. (dated). Missing: 1907-13, 1924-32.

Correspondence between selectmen and individuals, other towns, State, and

county regarding town matters. No arr. No index. Typed or hdw. File boxes, 15 x 18 x 14 to 17 x 6 x 25; env., 8½ x 11½. 3 file boxes, 1899-1922, bsmt. va.; 1 env., 1923, town off. va.; 1 file box, 1933--, sel. rm., first fl.; T. H.

23. (FEDERAL PROJECTS CORRESPONDENCE), 1933--. 1 bdl. Letters, telegrams, and printed pamphlets relative to Civilian Works Administration, Emergency Relief Administration, Works Progress Administration, and Public Works Administration projects, contracts, rules and regulations. Arr. by date of correspondence. No index. Hdw., typed, ptd. 8½ x 11½ x 12. Bsmt. va., T. H.

Miscellaneous

24. LICENSES - TOWN OF HOLBROOK - THOMAS E. DURANT, 1938--. 1 vol. System estab. 1938.
Record of licenses issued: Name of licensee, amount of fee paid, type of license; date of issue, expiration. Arr. by date of issue. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 8 x 5 x ¼. Va.

25. PERAMBULATION OF TOWN LINES, 1875-1906. 1 bdl. 1914 in Records (Minutes of Meetings of) Board of Selectmen, Town of Holbrook, entry 1-iv.
Names of towns, selectmen; description of boundaries to be confirmed, date of perambulation, signatures of selectmen. Arr. by date of perambulation. No index. Hdw. or typed. 11 x 5 x 2. Va.

26. HOLBROOK FAMILY BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS, 1872, 1912. 7 sheets in 1 env.
Contains record of gifts to town by E. N. and E. E. Holbrook:
i. E. N. Holbrook document, 1872: Names, addresses, signatures of heirs of original donor; amount, purpose, date of bequest. Includes statement showing name of donor; amount, conditions of bequest; date of donation.
ii. Donations by E. E. Holbrook, 1912: Amount, purpose of donation; signature of donor.
No arr. No index. i hdw., ii typed. 9 x 6½. Va.

II. TOWN CLERK[1]

For a number of years after the founding of the town, the town clerk of Holbrook was also the town treasurer.[2] The last election which

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 14 to V, p. 4 passim

combined the two offices took place in 1899; on March 5, 1900, the two offices were officially separated.[1]

Among the earliest duties of the clerk was the posting of warrants for town meetings, the attestation of certain official documents and, in some cases, the calling of meetings in the absence of the moderator.[2] On April 4, 1874, the clerk acted with the selectmen in the sorting and counting of votes at a meeting.[3] At the meeting in 1886 he was instructed to publish a list of all dogs licensed in the town in order that the dog-tax laws might be enforced.[4] In 1895 and 1896 the clerk was called upon to secure for the town legal opinions on two important matters; on March 11, 1895, he was instructed to obtain information concerning a motion which had been made to abate taxes for ten years on all manufactories except those of boots and shoes which might be established in the town with a capital of not less than $5,000;[5] and on March 2, 1896, to ascertain what legal steps were necessary to abolish the board of assessors.[6] Since 1884, the town clerk has served also as clerk of the registrars of voters.[7]

The clerk was ordered to convey to the General Court the vote of the town concerning a highway believed to be of importance in April 2, 1901.[8] In 1905 he was instructed to include a summary of transactions at business meetings in the annual town reports.[9] In 1909, he was authorized to send a resolution of thanks to E. E. Holbrook for a donation made to the public library.[10] He performed this function again on March 6, 1911, upon the occasion of a gift for a playground.[11] In connection with the water department the clerk drew up a motion on March 14, 1913, authorizing the water commissioners to draw sufficient money from a fund in their hands to extend the water system on Division Street.[12] The Clerk has always been elected annually by ballot at the town meeting.[13]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the town office, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street.

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1. Town Records, V, p. 28
2. Ibid., I, p. 6
3. Ibid., p. 85
4. Ibid., III, p. 33
5. Ibid., IV, p. 93
6. Ibid., p. 116
7. Acts, 1884, chap. 298, sec. 14
8. Town Records, V, p. 61
9. Ibid., p. 141
10. Ibid., VI, p. 24
11. Ibid., p. 113
12. Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 57, 265
13. Town Records, I, p. 14; Annual Reports, 1939, p. 265

Minutes and Reports
(See also entry 128-vi)

27. GENERAL RECORDS - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872-- 9 vols. (dated). Minutes of town meetings giving reports of town officers, votes on departmental appropriations, oaths of town officers, action on petitions; date of meeting, signature of clerk. Includes copies of town meeting warrants. Arr. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 16¼ x 11½ x 1¼. Va.

For published warrants for town meetings 1885--, see entry 2-xiv; for copies of minutes 1920--, see entry 59.

28. (ANNUAL REPORT OF TOWN CLERK), 1873--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.

Contains:

i. Record of licenses issued, 1897--:
   a. Dog licenses, 1897--: Number of male, female, spayed dogs licensed; amount of fee, total amount collected; amount of payment to county treasurer, 1897-1933, to town treasurer; 1934--, amount of fees retained by clerk.
   b. Sporting licenses, 1909--: Number, kind of license; amount of fee, total amount collected; amount of payment to state department of conservation, division of fisheries and game; amount of fees retained by clerk.

ii. Town records, extracts from, 1886, 1892, 1897-1903, 1905, 1907, 1909-16, 1920. For description, see entry 27.

iii. Vital Statistics, 1873--.
   a. Births: Name of child, date of birth. 1934-- includes names of parents.
   b. Deaths: Name, age of deceased; cause, date of death. 1873-75 includes place of birth.
   c. Marriages: Name, resident town of bride, groom; date of marriage.

Vital Statistics
(See also entries 28-iii, 182)

29. (Record of) BIRTHS - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872-- 2 vols. (dated). Name of town, registrar of births; name, sex, color, condition at birth, place and date of birth of child; names, addresses, birthplaces of parents; occupation of father, name of person making return, registration number of birth, date of recording. Arr. by registration no. For index, see entry 30. Hdw. on ptd. form. 143 pp. 18 x 12 x 1¼. Va.

30. INDEX TO BIRTHS, 1872--. 1 vol.
Name of child, volume and page reference. Arr. alph. by name of child. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 10 x 8 x 1½. Va.

31. RETURN OF BIRTH, 1898. 1 vol. System estab. and discont. 1898.
Name, sex, color (if other than white), place and date of birth of child; names, addresses, birthplaces of parents; occupation of father, maiden name of mother, signature of doctor. Arr. by date of birth. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 50 pp. 6½ x 4¼ x ¼. Va.

32. CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH, 1902, 1923--. 1 env., 1 vol. 1872-1901, 1903-22, destroyed by fire.
Name of county, town of birth, town making return; name, sex, color, place and date of birth, condition at birth of child; registration number of birth; names, addresses, color, ages, occupations, birthplaces of parents; maiden name of mother; address, signature of attendant at birth; date of attendance, date certificate received by clerk, signature of clerk. Arr. by registration no. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. Env., 10 x 12; vol., 600 pp. 6½ x 10 x 4. 1 env., 1902, va.; 1 vol., 1923--, residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

33. (Record of) CORRECTIONS - BIRTHS, 1925--. 2 vols. (dated). System estab. 1925.
Name of county, town of birth; name, sex, condition at birth, place, and date of birth of child; names, addresses, color, ages, birthplaces, occupations of parents; name, address of attendant at birth; number of registration, deposition; volume and page number reference to (Record of) Births - Town of Holbrook, entry 29; date of original return, reason for correction, signature of clerk. Also contains depositions: Name of State, county, town of deposition; name, title of official; signature, address, relationship of witness; date, number of deposition; date of affidavit. Arr. by deposition no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 6½ x 8 x ¼. Va.

34. DEPOSITIONS - BIRTHS, 1897--. 1 vol. System estab. 1897.
Record of sworn statements correcting original (Record of) Births - Town of Holbrook, entry 29: Name of town of birth; name, sex, color, condition at birth, place and date of birth of child; names, addresses, birthplaces of parents; occupation of father, number of deposition; signature, address, relationship of witness; date of correction, oath; signature of clerk. Arr. by deposition no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 50 pp. 10½ x 8 x ½. Va.

35. DEPOSITIONS (Record of Delayed Returns of) BIRTHS, 1922--. 1 vol.
Name of State, county, town of return; name, sex, condition at birth, place and date of birth of child; names, addresses, color, ages, birthplaces, occupations of parents; number of registration, deposition. Also contains affidavit of birth: Name of State, county, town, child; name of physician or other person making affidavit, reason for delayed return, date of affidavit; signature of attending physician, notary public. Arr. by deposition no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 60 pp. 6½ x 8 x ¼. Va.

36. NOTICE OF INTENTIONS OF MARRIAGE, 1872--. 3 vols. (2 vols., 1872-1922, dated; 1 vol., 1923--, unlabeled). Title varies: Marriage Intentions, 1872-1922, 2 vols.
Name of town clerk, town; name, address, age, color, marital status, occupation, birthplace of bride, groom; name of father, maiden name of mother of bride, groom; signature of bride, groom; registration number of notice; date of oath, notice, marriage certificate; signature of clerk. Includes occasionally consent to marriage by parent of minor: Name of clerk, town, parent; name, address, age of minor; proof of age; statement, date of consent; signature of parent, clerk.
Arr. chron., notices numbered consecutively. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 400 pp. 12 x 10 x 1 to 1000 pp. 9 x 11½ x 5. 2 vols., 1872-1922, bsmt. va.; 1 vol., 1923--, town off. va.

37. (RECORD OF MARRIAGES), 1872--. 1 vol.
Name, age, color, prior marital status, occupation, birthplace of bride, groom; names, birthplaces of parents; name, title of person officiating; registration number, place, date of marriage; date recorded. Arr. by registration no. For index, see entry 38. Hdw. on ptd. form. 1500 pp. 18 x 12 x 1.

38. INDEX TO (Record of) MARRIAGES, 1872--. 1 vol.
Name of bride, groom; page reference. Arr. alph. by names of parties. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 10 x 8 x 1½. Va.

39. CERTIFICATES OF MARRIAGE, 1902, 1923--. 1 env., 1 vol. Records 1903-22 destroyed by fire
Name, address, age, color, prior marital status, occupation, birthplace of bride, groom; name of father, maiden name of mother of bride, groom; place of filing of intentions; place, registration number, date of marriage; date of issuance, filing of certificate; signature, address of person officiating; certification, signature of clerk. Arr. by registration no. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. Env., 8½ x 11 x ¼; vol., 700 pp. 8½ x 12 x 4. 1 env., 1902, va.; 1 vol., 1923--, residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin Street.

40. DEPOSITIONS - MARRIAGES, 1897--. 1 vol.
Record of sworn statements correcting original (Record of Marriages) entry 37: Name, address, age, occupation, marital status, birthplace of bride, groom; names of parents; name, address, relationship of deponent; registration number of deposition; place, date of marriage; date of oath, record; signature of clerk. Arr. by registration no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 500 pp. 10½ x 8 x ½. Va.

41. (RECORD OF DEATHS), 1872--. 1 vol.
Name, address, occupation, age, sex, color, condition, place of birth of decedent; names, birthplaces of parents; cause, place, date of death; place, date of burial; registration number. Arr. by registration no. For index, see entry 42. Hdw. on ptd. form. 150 pp. 18 x 12 x 1. Va.

42. INDEX TO (Record of) DEATHS, 1872--. 1 vol.
Name of decedent, page reference. Arr. alph. by name of decedent. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 10 x 18 x 1⅛. Va.

43. CERTIFICATES OF DEATH, 1923--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed by fire.
Name of county making return; name of county, town in which death occurred; name, address, age, sex, color, marital status, occupation, birthplace of decedent; number of years, date of termination of employment; name, birthplace of father; maiden name, birthplace of mother; name, address of informant; certification of filing of certificate before issuance of burial permit, registration number, date of permit, signature of board of health agent. Also contains medical certificate of death: Name, address of undertaker; name of decedent; nature, length of illness; cause of death; place, date of burial; date of statement; date of receipt, filing of certificate; signature of physician, clerk. Arr. by registration no. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 800 pp. 8½ x 12 x 4. Residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

44. DEPOSITION - DEATHS, 1897--. 1 vol. System estab. 1897.
Record of sworn statements correcting original (Record of Deaths) entry 41: Name, address, age, sex, occupation, birthplace, place of burial of decedent; name of town; signature, address, relationship of deponent; cause, place, date of death; registration number, recording date of deposition; date of oath, signature of clerk. Arr. by registration no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 50 pp. 10½ x 8 x ½. Va.

Legal Records
(See also entries 7, 8)

45. MORTGAGES (on Personal Property), ETC. - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872--. 9 vols. (1-9).
Transcription of personal property mortgages: Name, address of mortgagor, mortgagee; amount, conditions, terms of mortgage; location, description of property; recital of mortgage covenants; date of mortgage, recording; signature, seal of mortgagor; signature of clerk. Also contains transcription of the following legal documents:

i. Assignment of wages, 1899--: Name, address, county of assignor, assignee; name, address, business of assignor's employer; occupation of assignee; amount, duration of assignment; appointment of assignor's agent; time, date of assignment; signature of assignor, employer, clerk.

ii. Attachment of personal property: Name of State, county, county court, presiding justice; name, address of plaintiff; name, address, occupation of defendant; title of attaching officer, amount of attachment, order, date of appearance in court, location of court, nature of action, amount of damage; place, date of writ; signature of clerk of court; attestation of sheriff.

Includes return by sheriff: Name of county; description, location of property; time, date of attachment; date of return; signature of sheriff, clerk.

iii. Certificate of out-of-state notary public, 1900: Name of State, county of certification; name, title of certifying officer; name, qualifications of notary; date of certificate; time, date of recording; signature of clerk.

iv. Lease of personal property, 1904--: Name of town, lessee; name, address of lessor; location, description of property leased; terms, conditions, date of lease; date lease received, recorded by clerk; signature of lessee, witness, clerk.

v. Married woman's business certificate, 1899--: Name of town, State; name, address of business woman; name of husband; name, location, nature of business; date of certificate, recording; signature of business woman, clerk.

vi. Promissory note, 1903--. Name of promisor, promisee; rate of interest, acknowledgment of value received; amount, place, date of payment; date of note, signature of promisor.

vii. Trust, deed of, 1898--: Names, addresses of settlor, beneficiary, and trustees; vote of trustees, meeting, description of trust provisions, procedure on default; reimbursement, general duties of trustees; date of trust, agreement; signatures of officers of beneficiary, president of trustees. Includes acknowledgment of deed of trust: Name of town, county, State; acknowledgment by beneficiary, trustees; date of deed, acknowledgment; signature of clerk.

Arr. chron. For index, see entry 46. Hdw. 220 pp. 16½ x 11 x 1½. 4 vols., 1872-97, bsmt. va.; 5 vols., 1898--, town off. va.

46. INDEX TO MORTGAGES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY (and Other Legal Records), 1872--. 1 vol.

Names of principals, volume and page reference. Arr. alph. by names of principals. Hdw. 60 pp. 16 x 10½ x ½. Va.

Licenses and Registrations
(See also entries 24, 28-i a)

47. (Stubs of) RESIDENT CITIZEN'S HUNTING LICENSES, 1939--. 1 vol. Prior records sent to state department of conservation, division of fisheries and game.

Name, address, birthplace, age, physical description of licensee; series, license number; amount of fee; time, date of issue; signature of licensee, certification of clerk. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 3 x 9½ x ¼. Residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

48. (Stubs of) RESIDENT CITIZEN'S SPORTING LICENSES, 1939--. 1 vol. Prior records sent to state department of conservation, division of fisheries and game.
For description, see entry 47. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 3 x 9½ x ¼. Residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

49. (Stubs of) RESIDENT CITIZEN'S FISHING LICENSES, 1939--. 1 vol. Prior records sent to state department of conservation, division of fisheries and game.
For description, see entry 47. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 3 x 9½ x ¼. Residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

50. (Stubs of) RESIDENT CITIZEN'S WOMEN'S AND MINOR'S FISHING LICENSES, 1939--. 1 vol. Prior records sent to state department of conservation, division of fisheries and game.
For description, see entry 47. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 3 x 9½ x ¼. Residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

51. (Stubs of) NON-RESIDENT CITIZEN'S FISHING LICENSES, 1939--. 1 vol. Prior records sent to state department of conservation, division of fisheries and game.
For description, see entry 47. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 3 x 9½ x ¼. Residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

52. DOG LICENSE, 1925--. 27 vols. (20 vols., 1925-37, unlabeled; 7 vols., 1938--, marked by incl. license nos.).
Duplicates and stubs of licenses issued for male, female, and spayed dogs:

i. Duplicates: Name, address of owner; name, breed, color, age, sex, tag number of dog; amount of fee; number, date of license; signature of clerk.

ii. Stubs: Name of town, county; sex, tag number of dog; number, expiration date of license; signature of clerk.

Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 5 x 11 x ½. 20 vols., 1925-37, bsmt. va., T. H.; 7 vols., 1938--, residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

For monthly returns to accountant of licenses issued 1938--, see entry 128-vi.

53. (Record of) KENNEL LICENSE(s), 1938--. 1 vol. (dated, no. 672).
Name of kennel owner, amount of fee, number of tag; number, date of license; signature of clerk. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 6 pp. 5 x 11 x ¼. Residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

54. RECORDS (of) JUNK DEALERS' LICENSES, 1907-8. 1 vol.
Name of licensee; type, number, dates of issue and expiration of license. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. 80 pp. 10 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Va.

55. THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE - NO. 1 BEACON ST., BOSTON, 1917--. 1 vol. System estab. 1917.
Copies of certificates of registration of physicians practicing in Holbrook: Name, residential and business addresses of physician; number of town, state certificate; amount of fee to town, State; citation of law governing registration, date of registration by clerk; signature of physician, clerk. Arr. by date of registration. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 5 x 8$\frac{1}{4}$ x 1. Va.

56. (REGISTRATION OF DEALERS IN OLEOMARGARINE), 1929--. 1 vol. System estab. 1929.
Duplicates and stubs of certificates of registration:
i. Duplicates: Name of State; name, address of dealer; title, number of certificate; date of registration, signature of clerk. Includes notice regarding time of renewal.
ii. Stubs: Name, address of dealer; certificate number, date of registration.
Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 5$\frac{1}{4}$ x 11$\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{4}$. Va.

Military Records

57. REBELLION RECORD - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1861-65. 1 vol. (1).
Record of enlisted men and officers who served in Civil War: Name, address, rank, regiment and company or name of vessel, period of enlistment, place and date of birth, occupation, marital status of serviceman; names of parents, amount of bounty paid for enlistment: date of enlistment, promotion, resignation, discharge, death. Arr. alph. by name of serviceman. Indexed alph. by name of serviceman. Hdw. on ptd. form. 372 pp. 15$\frac{1}{4}$ x 10$\frac{1}{4}$ x 2. Va.

58. (Record of) HOLBROOK WORLD WAR VETERANS, 1917-18. 1 vol.
Name, serial number, rank, organizations, overseas service of veteran; date of birth, enlistment, discharge. Includes date of death, place of burial of deceased veteran. Arr. alph. by name of veteran. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 6$\frac{1}{2}$ x 10$\frac{1}{4}$ x 1. Desk.

Miscellaneous

59. (CORRESPONDENCE), 1920--. 1 file drawer. Prior records destroyed.
Letters between clerk and individuals, town, county, and state departments, regarding vital statistics, voters' lists, absentee ballots, maps,

reports, accident compensation, and claims against town. Includes copies of minutes of town meetings. Arr. alph. by name of correspondent. Indexed alph. by subject. Hdw. or typed. 11½ x 8 x 25.

60. (CARD FILE OF PERSONS LISTED IN TOWN), 1938--. 1 bdl. (Marked Male-Female). Prior records destroyed.
Name of town; name, age, occupation, sex, nationality, precinct number of person listed; address as of January 1 in current, preceding year; maiden name of female, date of listing. Arr. alph. by name of person listed. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4 x 6 x 7. Residence of Mrs. Emily McGaughey (cl.), 453 North Franklin St.

III. REGISTRARS OF VOTERS[1]

The selectmen of Randolph had been instructed by the General Court in 1872 to make a list of the persons in Holbrook eligible to vote.[2] Prior to the appointment of a separate board of registrars in 1884, the selectmen of Holbrook had been required to prepare at least ten days before the first Monday of March and the second Monday of November, correct alphabetical lists of all persons qualified to vote.[3] A board of three registrars, serving in rotation, appears in the annual reports and the town records for the year 1884.[4] Since that year the town clerk has been required by law to serve as a member of the board.[5]

In 1926 it was voted that two of the registrars receive $30 each per year, and the registrar acting as clerk receive $40.[6]

All records are in the Town Hall, North Franklin Street; except where otherwise noted, they are in the town office vault, first floor.

61. (Minutes of Meetings of) BOARD OF REGISTRATION - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1884-1904. 1 vol.
Names of voters added to, dropped from voting list; time, place, date of meeting; hour, date of adjournment; signature of clerk of board. Arr. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 16 x 11 x 1.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Acts, 1872, chap. 61, art. 7
3. Massachusetts General Court, General Statutes, 1860, Boston, William White, State Printer, 1860, chap. 6, sec. 7
4. Annual Reports, 1885, p. 2
5. Acts, 1884, chap. 298, sec. 14
6. Town Records, VII, p. 197

62. REGISTRATIONS - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1877-1921. 5 vols. (dated). System discont. 1921.

Name, present address, address as of May 1, age, birthplace, occupation, place of business, naturalization record of voter; date of registration, signature of voter. Arr. alph. by name of voter. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 16 x 10⅗ x 1.

For subsequent records, see entries 63, 64.

63. MEN - REGISTER OF VOTERS - HOLBROOK, 1922--. 1 vol. System estab. 1922.

Name, present address, address as of April 1, age, birthplace, occupation, business address, naturalization record of voter; date of registration. Arr. alph. by name of voter. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 16 x 10⅗ x 1.

For prior records, see entry 62.

64. REGISTER OF (Female) VOTERS, 1922--. 1 vol. System estab. 1922.

Name, address, age, birthplace, occupation, business address of voter; minutes of naturalization proceedings, date of registration, precinct number. Arr. alph. by name of voter. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 16⅗ x 10½ x 1.

65. PERSONS LISTED (as Residents) IN TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1939--. 2 file drawers (marked Male - Female). System estab. 1939.

Name of town; name, address as of January 1, sex, occupation, nationality of resident; statement of eligibility for military duty, maiden name of married woman resident, date of listing. Arr. alph. by name of resident. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 7½ x 18½ x 18 Town off.

66. LIST OF WOMEN (Residents), 1921-23. 2 vols. (dated).

Name, address, age, occupation of resident; date of recording. Arr. alph. by name of resident. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 75 pp. 12 x 9½ x ½.

67. LOCAL ELECTION BALLOTS - VOTE TALLY SHEETS - LIST OF PERSONS QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN ELECTIONS AND TOWN AFFAIRS, June 13, 1933--. 1 file box.

Contains:

i. Local election ballots: Block number; number of ballots counted, recounted at annual election; date of election, count, recount, resealing; signatures of registrars.

ii. Tally sheets: Name of town, elective office, candidate; precinct, block number; number of votes for each candidate, blanks; total number of votes cast, date of tally.

iii. Voting list: Name, sex of voter; check mark of precinct officer, precinct number, date of election, signature of clerk of registrar.

Arr. by subject. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 11 x 11⅗ x 16½. Bsmt. va.

IV. BOARD OF ASSESSORS[1]

At the first annual meeting in 1872 it was voted to elect three men to act as selectmen, assessors, and overseers of the poor.[2] Bylaws adopted at an adjourned session of the same meeting instructed the assessors to complete their assessment of taxes and deliver a list of the assessments to the collector by August 1st of each year. It was specified that the tax assessment list should also include poll taxes.[3]

The office of assessors was separated from the other offices for the first time at the annual meeting in 1896 when three assessors were elected.[4] Two years later, however, on January 29, 1898, it was voted to abolish the office entirely.[5] On the following February 12th, it was voted to have the selectmen, in their annual warrant for the town meeting, call for the election of three selectmen, assessors, and overseers of the poor for one year.[6] This method was followed until 1908, when, on March 2, it was voted to separate the offices and three assessors were elected.[7] The number has remained at three to the present time, one being elected each year for a three-year term.[8]

Amended bylaws accepted by the town in recent years have instructed the assessors to print for distribution a list of all properties in the town and their valuations.[9] In 1924 it was voted that the streets be officially numbered, and $300.00 was appropriated to the assessors for the purpose.[10] They acted jointly with the board of health in 1930 to assess upon the residents the cost of garbage disposal.[11] On March 3, 1930[12] and March 7, 1938 the assessors were given an appropriation from revenue accounts to be used for the purposes of tax reduction.

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the assessors' office, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 14
3. Bylaws, art. VII, in Annual Reports, 1873
4. Town Records, III, p. 82
5. Ibid., IV, p. 163
6. Ibid., p. 163 et seq.
7. Ibid., p. 4
8. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 3
9. Bylaws, art. VII, sec. 1, 2 in Annual Reports, 1939
10. Town Records, VII, p. 47
11. Ibid., VIII, p. 98
12. Ibid., pp. 100, 295

Minutes and Reports
(See also entry 93-iii)

68. RECORDS (Minutes of Meetings), 1936--. 1 vol. System estab. 1936.
Discussion and action on assessments, expenditures, general administrative business; time, place, date of meeting. Arr. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 10½ x 8¼ x ½. Safe.

69. (ANNUAL REPORTS OF ASSESSORS), 1877--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Contains report of selectmen as assessors 1877-1908, board of assessors 1909--:
i. Assessments and valuations: Total amount of real, personal property valuations; amount of bank stock owned by residents; total number of dwellings, livestock, dogs, acres of land assessed. 1929-- includes motor vehicle excise valuation and assessment.
ii. Data for computation of tax rate, 1921--: Kinds of taxes used for computation basis; classification, amount of estimated receipts; motor vehicle excise rate, total amount of monthly commitments.

70. REAL ESTATE VALUATION LIST FOR THE TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1939--. 1 vol.
Returns of real estate valuations, submitted to state commissioner of corporations and taxation: Name of town, State; name, address, serial number of property owner; description, valuation of each parcel of property; total value of property. Arr alph by name of property owner. No index. Hdw. on ptd form. 700 pp 14 x 19½ x 1½. Safe.

Valuations and Assessments
(See also entries 69-i, 93-vii)

71. VALUATION LIST FOR THE TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872--. 69 vols. (dated).
Name, address, serial number of person listed; value of stock, machinery used in business; aggregate of tangible personal property; total tax on personal property; description, valuation of real property; total tax on polls, real and personal property; date of assessment. Also contains:
i. Table of aggregates of polls and property taxes: Name of town, names of assessors; number assessed for poll, property taxes; number of livestock, dwellings, acres of land assessed; value of real, personal property; total value of all property, tax rate: amount of town, state, county taxes; total taxes assessed, date of assessment, time of filing.
ii. Tax compilation: Amount of town appropriations, assessments, state and county taxes; deficit of previous year, current overlay, estimated receipts, available funds, amount of tax rate

approved by state commissioner of corporations and taxation, amount of money available, computation of amount to be raised, total number of poll tax payers, total valuation of real and personal property, amount of gain or loss allowed, total amount of commitment, date of compilation.

iii. Warrant to tax collector for poll, personal and real property taxes: Name of town, county, tax collector; type, amount of tax; order for collection, payment to treasurer; statement of law on procedure after refusal to pay on tax demand, date of warrant, signatures of assessors.

Valuation list arr. alph. by name of property owner; other records arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form 100 pp. 18½ x 15½ x 1. 55 vols., 1872-1926, bsmt. va.; 14 vols., 1927--, town off. va., first fl.; T. H.

For listing of polls 1939--, see entry 93-iv; for listing of real and personal property 1939--, see entry 93-v,-vii; for commitments 1920--, see entries 97, 98; for record of tax collections 1912--, see entry 100; for poll tax receipts 1872--, see entry 101.

72. (RECORD OF OWNERSHIP AND VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY), 1928--. 2 file drawers (A-Z).

Name of grantor; name, address of grantee; number of lot, map, deed abstract; location, description, valuation of land, buildings; total valuation of real property, year of assessment; date of recording. Arr. alph. by name of grantee. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form 6 x 9 x 17. Safe.

Abatements
(See also entries 76, 77, 93-i,-ii)

73. ABATEMENT RECORD, 1909-- 6 vols (dated).

Name of taxpayer; type, date of tax; amount, cause, date of abatement. Arr. by date of abatement. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 75 pp. 8½ x 11½ x ½. 4 vols., 1909-29, bsmt., va.; 2 vols., 1930--, town off. va., first fl.; T. H.

For monthly record of abatements kept by accountant 1938--, see entry 128-iv.

74. (COPIES OF ABATEMENT CERTIFICATES FOR POLL, REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES), 1939-- 4 vols. (dated)

Name, address of property owner; certificate number, date of assessment; amount, reason for, date of abatement; signatures of assessors. Arr. by date of abatement, certificates numbered consecutively. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 250 pp. 3½ x 8½ x ½. Safe.

Motor Vehicle Excise
(See also entries 69-i, 93-i, 99, 103, 104-iii)

75. MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE OF THE TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1936--. 3 vols. (dated).
Record of motor vehicles assessed: Name, address of owner; description, valuation of motor vehicle; number of months assessed; commitment number; number, date of registration. Arr. alph. by name of owner. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 16½ x 14 x ¼. Safe.

76. (Record of) ABATEMENTS - MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE, 1930--. 2 vols. (dated) System estab 1930.
Name of car owner; registration number, make of car; amount, date of assessment; date of application for abatement; amount, reason for, date of abatement. Arr. by date of abatement. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 75 pp. 11¼ x 8½ x ½. Safe.
For applications for abatement 1939--, see entry 93-i; for copies of notices of refusal of abatement 1939--, see entry 93-vi; for monthly record of abatements kept by accountant 1938--, see entry 128-iii.

77. (COPIES OF ABATEMENT CERTIFICATES), 1939-- 2 vols (dated).
For description, see entry 74. Arr by date of abatement, certificates numbered consecutively. No index. Hdw on ptd form. 250 pp. 3½ x 8½ x ½. Safe.

Property Ownership

78. HOLBROOK PROPERTY RETURNS, 1900-1932. 3 vols (1-3, dated). System estab 1900. 1932-- in (Record of Property Title Acquisitions), entry 79-ii
Record of property transferred by deed. Name of grantor, grantee; location, description of property transferred; amount of consideration, date of transfer, volume and page reference to recorded instrument in county registry of deeds. Arr. by date of transfer. No index. Hdw. 440 pp. 12¼ x 18½ x 3

79. (RECORD OF PROPERTY TITLE ACQUISITIONS), 1932-- 1 file drawer. System estab 1932
Contains:

i. Decedent cards: Names, addresses of decedent, heirs, executor or administrator; amount of real, personal property in estate; description, amount, number of each item in inventory; date of death, appointment of administrator or executor, inventory, probate; probate docket number
ii. Holbrook Property Returns, entry 78
iii. Land court deeds: Name, address of grantee; description of property; number, date of transfer certificate; volume and page references to recorded instruments in county land court registry.

Arr. by year and thereunder alph. by name of property owner. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 6 x 9 x 17.

80. (CARD RECORD OF PROPERTY OWNERS), 1910-31. 1 file box. System estab. 1910 discont. 1931.
Name, address of property owner; description, location of real estate. No arr. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 6½ x 8 x 19¼.

81. (RECORD OF REGISTERED AUTOMOBILE OWNERS), 1938--. 2 file drawers (A-Z).
Name, address of car owner; name of insurance company; registration, engine number; place of garaging, amount of registration fee; year, model, make, type, number of cylinders, date of registration of car. Arr. alph. by name of car owner. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 3½ x 5¼ x 17. Safe.

82. (ABSTRACTS OF TAX RETURNS OF MASSACHUSETTS CORPORATIONS), 1937--. 2 file drawers.
Name of state commissioner of corporation and taxation; name, address of corporation; state of incorporation, citation of law as authority for return; description, book and actual value of assets; location of property; date of tax return, abstract. Arr alph by name of corporation. No index. Typed on ptd form. 6 x 9 x 17. Safe.

Maps and Plans

83. (STREET LOCATION MAPS), 1872--. 60 maps
Land tenure maps used by assessors in drawing up tax lists of poll and property taxpayers, showing locations of streets, buildings, lots, and numbers of lots and buildings. Various authors, publishers, places of publication. Blueprint. Scales and sizes vary.

84. (MAP OF PROPOSED LOCATION FOR STREET RAILWAY TRACKS ON WEYMOUTH AND PLYMOUTH STREETS), 1896. 1 map.
Map showing length and width of streets; locations of intersecting streets, lanes, gravel walks, footpaths, culverts, poles, boundary lines, and large elm trees. Hodges and Harrington. Publisher unknown. Blueprint. 1":50'. 17 x 8.

85. (MAP OF DRAINAGE SYSTEM IN ADAMS - PLEASANT STREET SECTION), 1918. 1 map.
Profile map of method of disposal of surface water, showing names of streets, abutters; locations of intersections, pipe drains, bridges, meadows, swamp, brook, hydrants, open channel; vertical, horizontal scale elevation of base in feet; proposed location of drains and catch basins. Hartley C. White. Braintree, publisher unknown. Blueprint. 1¼":100'. 26 x 41.

86. (POLE LOCATION MAPS), 1923. 10 maps.
Maps showing names of streets, private ways, pole owners, location of poles, distance apart. H. L. Jones. Boston, publisher unknown. Blueprint. 1":40'. 19¼ x 30.

87. (MAPS OF HOUSE LOCATIONS), 1924. 30 maps.
Land tenure maps showing names and locations of streets, intersections, houses (with house numbers). Percy C. Peckman. Holbrook, publisher unknown. Blueprint. 1":40'. 14 x 12½.

88. (CONSTRUCTION PLANS OF SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL), 1928. 18 plans.
Plans of exterior and interior of building, giving specifications of construction. George W. H. Webber. Holbrook, publisher unknown. Blueprint. ¼":1'. 24 x 43½.

89. (PLANS OF ELECTRICAL WORK ON SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL), 1928. 11 plans.
Photostat plans of electrical installation. Includes specifications of work to be done, materials to be used; description of fixtures for building, rooms. George W. H. Webber. Holbrook, publisher unknown. Photostat. No scale. 10½ x 8½.

90. (MAP OF LAUREL PARK AS LAID OUT BY SELECTMEN), 1935. 1 map.
Profile map showing names of abutters, intersecting streets leading to park; signatures of selectmen, town clerk. R. E. Peterson. Holbrook, publisher unknown. Black-and-white. 1":40'. 36 x 24.

91. (MAP OF EDGEWOOD PARK), undated. 1 map.
Map showing names of intersecting streets leading to park, with number of each lot. D. W. Baker. Holbrook, publisher unknown. Blueprint. Faded. 1":40'. 31 x 56.

92. (PLANS OF TOWN HALL), undated. 2 plans.
Construction plans showing dimensions, area of Town Hall; location of stairs, sounding board, windows, doors, airduct chambers, reception and check rooms, lavatories. Draftsman unknown. Boston, Boston Metal Ceiling Co. Blueprint. ¼":1'. 19¼ x 32.

Miscellaneous

93. (MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS), 1925--. 4 file drawers. Prior records destroyed.
Contains the following printed forms prescribed by state law and approved by state commissioner of corporations and taxation for use of assessors:

i. Application for abatement of motor vehicle excise tax, 1939--: Name, address of applicant; make, type, motor and maker's number, year of vehicle; number, date of registration; contentions of law raised by applicant.

ii. Application for abatement of real estate tax, 1939--: Name, address of owner; location, description, assessed valuation of property; owner's estimate of valuation; record of rental, mortgages, fire insurance; reason for application, contentions of law raised, signature of owner; date of application, receipt

by assessors. Includes record of hearing on application: Name of taxpayer's representative; date of notice, hearing, record; decision, signatures of assessors.

iii. Business inventory reports sent to assessors by state commissioner of corporations and taxation: Name, home and business address of businessman; valuation of personal property, stock on hand at end of previous year; amount represented by ten percent of gross sales or receipts, date of report.

iv. Listing of polls, 1939--: Name, address, age of voter; names of minors or wards; number of male, female dogs; ward, precinct number; date of listing.

v. Listing of real and personal property, 1939--: Name, address of owner; location, valuation of real estate, stock in trade, live stock household furniture, unregistered motor vehicles; date of listing.

vi. Notice (copy) of refusal to abate motor vehicle excise tax, 1939--: Name, address of applicant; date of registration of motor vehicle; assessment, application; statement, date of refusal; signatures of assessors.

vii. Property valuation lists submitted by individuals, partnerships, associations, trusts, and corporations subject to taxation, 1939--: Name, legal residence of person or organization filing report; name, nature, location of business; location of real and personal property, livestock, unregistered motor vehicles, exempted personal property; ward, precinct number; date of filing, attestation of person filing report. Includes number of polls.

viii. Warrant (copy) accompanying itemized tax list sent to collector and authorizing collection of taxes and transfer of tax receipts to treasurer, 1939-- Name of collector, treasurer; type, total amount, date of tax; amount, due date of transfer; statement of authorization, date of warrant, signatures of assessors

ix. Warrant (copy) to treasurer authorizing receipt of taxes from collector and ordering treasurer to transfer portions of receipts to state and county treasurers, 1939--: Name of collector; name of town, county, state treasurer; amount, date of transfer; date of warrant, signatures of assessors.

Arr. chron. No index. Hdw or typed on ptd form. 6 x 9 x 17 to 10 x 17 x 3½. Safe.

94. (CORRESPONDENCE), 1932--. 1 file box, 1 folder

Letters between assessors and town, county, state commissioner of corporations and taxation, and individuals regarding departmental business.

1 file box, 1932-38, arr. alph. by name of correspondent; 1 folder, 1939--, arr. by date of letter. No index. Hdw. or typed. File box, 11 x 13 x 17; folder, 10¼ x 15 x 1½.

95. (Record of) PERSONS LISTED BY THE ASSESSORS IN THE TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1932--. 20 pamphlets in 1 carton.
Name, current and last prior address, sex, age, occupation, nationality of resident; names of assessors, citation of law relative to listing, year of listing. Arr. alph. by name of person listed. No index. Hdw., typed, ptd. 24½ x 20 x 12. Safe.

V. COLLECTOR OF TAXES[1]

At an adjourned session of the first town meeting on March 21st, 1872, it was voted that the collection of taxes be let out to the lowest bidder and that the tax collector "be authorized to use all means of collecting the same which a town treasurer, when appointed a collector, may use."[2] The bylaws adopted the same year specified dates on which the list of assessments should be given to the collector and that payments be made to him.[3]

The low bid for 1872 was 1½ mills on each dollar collected; within thirteen years this rate had increased to eight mills.[4] In the first year it was voted that an interest rate of 12 percent be charged on all delinquent taxes.[5] This rate dropped as low as one percent in one year;[6] it was established in the bylaws of 1883 at seven percent, should the town vote to impose it. The superior court refused to approve this provision, however.[7]

The lowest-bidder system remained in use until 1908, since which year the office has been filled by election.[8] By 1917 the collector had an office in the Town Hall; in that year $40 was provided for a desk for his office.[9] In 1921 the selectmen were instructed to provide the collector with a safe.[10] Since the percentage system of paying the collector was abandoned, his salary has varied. In one year, 1899, the collector had been offered a salary of $154 which he refused in favor of a rate of six mills on the dollar.[11]

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 20
3. Bylaws, art. VII, in Annual Reports, 1939
4. Town Records, I, p. 20
5. Ibid., pp. 20-25
6. Town Records, II, p. 10
7. Bylaws, art. VII, sec. 2; Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 190, 191
8. Town Records, VI, p. 5; Annual Reports, 1939, p. 226
9. Ibid., VII, p. 9
10. Ibid., p. 89
11. Ibid., V, pp. 8, 9

In 1925, however, a set salary of $400 a year was fixed. The salary in 1939 was $1,140.[1] The collector has direct charge of the collection of all vehicle, bank, corporation, poll, real and personal property taxes.[2] Under the revised bylaws the lists of assessments are delivered to him each August and taxes are payable before October 10th.[3]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the tax collector's office, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street.

Reports

96. (ANNUAL REPORTS OF COLLECTOR), 1878--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Type, total amount, year of tax; amounts of commitments, abatements, adjustments, refunds, payments to treasurer; taxes outstanding at beginning, end of year.

Commitments

97. TAX LIST, 1920-25. 3 vols. (dated). System discont. 1925.
List of commitments sent by assessors: Name, address, account number of taxpayer; amount of real property tax, special taxes; total amount of tax; amount of abatement, interest; amount, date of payment. Arr. by name and thereunder by account number of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. and stamped on ptd. form. 300 pp. 11 x 8¼ x ½. 2 vols., 1920-24, bsmt. va., T. H.; 1 vol., 1925, tax coll. off.
For valuations and assessments 1872--, see entry 71.

98. TOWN OF HOLBROOK TAXES AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, 1926--. 1 vol. (dated). System estab. 1926.
Form prescribed by state law and approved by state commissioner of corporations and taxation, recording payment of real and personal property tax: Name of town; name, address of taxpayer; amount of abatement, interest, total tax due; amount, date of payment. Arr. by year and thereunder alph by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 500 pp. 15 x 21 x 3. Safe.
For valuations and assessments 1872--, see entry 71.

99. MOTOR EXCISE (Commitments), 1928--. 1 vol. (dated). System estab. 1928.
Name of town; name, address, number of taxpayer; number of months assessed; amount of tax, interest, fees, refunds, abatements; commitment number; total amount, date of payment; date of tax. Arr. by year and

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1. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 57
2. Bylaws, art. VII, secs. 1, 2, in Annual Reports, 1939
3. Idem

thereunder alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. and stamped on ptd. form. 350 pp. 17½ x 14½ x 2. Safe.
For valuations and assessments 1936--, see entry 75.

Receipts

100. COLLECTORS' CASH, 1912--. 25 vols. (dated).
Record of tax collections: Name of taxpayer, collector; amount of poll, real and personal property taxes, special assessments; total amount of tax; amount of abatement, interest; total amount received; amount, date of payment. Arr. by date of payment and thereunder alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 11½ x 9½ x 1. 11 vols., 1912-24, bsmt. va., T. H.; 14 vols., 1925--, desk, tax coll. off.

101. (Record of) POLL TAX (Payments), 1872--. 65 vols. (dated).
Name, address, account number of taxpayer; amount of tax, abatement; amount, date of payment. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 320 pp. 11½ x 10 x ½. 52 vols. 1872-1924, bsmt. va.; 13 vols., 1925--, town off. va., first fl.; T. H.
For assessments 1872--, see entry 71.

102. POLL TAX CASH (Payments), 1925--. 13 vols. (dated). System estab. 1925.
Form of record prescribed by State and used in conjunction with (Record of) Poll Tax (Payments), entry 101: Name, account number of taxpayer; amount of tax; amount, date of payment; volume and page reference to (Record of) Poll Tax (Payments), entry 101. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 320 pp. 8½ x 7¼ x 1. Shelf.

103. CASH (Payments) MOTOR VEHICLES EXCISE, 1928--. 12 vols. (dated). System estab. 1928.
Name of town, car owner; year, amount of tax; amount of interest, abatements, total tax; account number, date of payment. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 142 pp. 11½ x 9½ x ½. Shelf.
For valuations and assessments 1936--, see entry 75.

Deeds, Warrants, Orders

104. (COPIES OF COLLECTOR'S TAX NOTICES), 1938--. 3 file boxes. System estab. 1925. Prior records destroyed.
Contains carbon copies of forms prescribed by state law and approved by state commissioner of corporations and taxation:

i. Collector's deed to town after adjourned sale of property for nonpayment of taxes: Name of collector, taxpayer; amount of taxes, charges, assessments, interest; statement of notices of sale of property, record of bid by collector, description of property, granting of property to town subject to redemption; dates of published notices of sale, bid, deed; date of

receipt, recording at county registry of deeds; volume and page reference to entry in registry; signature of collector, register of deeds. Includes oath: Attestation, date of act; signature of justice of the peace.

ii. Demand for poll, property, or motor vehicle excise tax: Name, address of taxpayer; amount of tax, demand, interest; total amount, date due; number, date of demand; time, place of payment; signature of tax collector.

iii. Notice of poll, property, and motor vehicle excise tax: Name of tax collector; name, address of taxpayer; amount of interest, demand; total taxes and assessments, total amount due; number, date of notice; amount, date of payment. Includes instructions for payment of taxes.

iv. Order to treasurer to refund amount of abatement of motor vehicle excise tax: Name, address of taxpayer; amount of refund; date of tax payment, abatement, notice; signature of collector, town accountant.

v. Warrant to county sheriff to distrain or commit for unpaid tax: Name, address of taxpayer; amount of unpaid taxes, statement of law, instructions to constable or sheriff, date of warrant, signature of tax collector. Includes sheriff's return, reporting commitment of taxpayer to jail or receipt of taxes due.

Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Typed on ptd. form. 7 x 17 x 16. Cabinet.

VI. TREASURER[1]

At the first town meeting and for 28 years thereafter a combined town clerk and treasurer were elected.[2]

One of the first powers granted to the treasurer was that of borrowing money in anticipation of taxes.[3] The bylaws adopted in 1872 limited the payments by the treasurer to such as the selectmen should authorize.[4] In 1876 the treasurer was authorized to make releases of land purchased by the town at tax collector's sales.[5] A year later he borrowed money to make payment on the town debt.[6] The power to borrow was limited to $10,000 by the town meeting of 1881.[7]

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1. For the statutory origin and duties of this office, see Town and City Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 14 to V, p. 28
3. Ibid., I, p. 61
4. Bylaws, art. X, in Annual Reports, 1873
5. Town Records, I, p. 133
6. Ibid., II, p. 26
7. Ibid., p. 71

Treasurer

In November, 1881, the treasurer was given the approval of the selectmen to post a reward for the apprehension of persons believed to have been guilty in the setting of a number of fires in the town.[1] He issued notes in 1882 to pay for a gravel pit purchased earlier.[2] Other transactions in these years were the collection of money for licenses issued and the reimbursement of the town of Braintree for the use of its fire apparatus at a fire in 1883.[3]

The largest of the transactions of the treasurer's office up to that time occurred in 1886, when he was authorzed to sell $100,000 in bonds for the water department to meet Holbrook's share of the cost of the water system which it built jointly with the town of Randolph.[4] The same year $1,000 was borrowed to pay the interest on this loan.[5]

The incumbent in the office resigned in 1888, and the selectmen appointed a successor to serve the remainder of his term.[6] The following year the treasurer borrowed money from the water sinking fund to pay a debt, and in 1890 again exercised this power.[7] When certain mill owners of Braintree brought suit against the town due to the use of the Great Pond as a source of water, the treasurer borrowed a sum of money to defray the expenses of the town's defense.[8] In 1891 authority was given by the town meeting to borrow $4,000 and add it to $6,000 more which had been realized from fire insurance policies, and use it for the construction of a new high school.[9] In June of the next year the treasurer was empowered to raise $35,000 through a Holbrook Water Loan.[10]

Several important loans were made by the treasurer during the next ten years. In 1894 $30,000 was borrowed to defray the expenses of the town;[11] in 1896 $5,000 to pay town debts and in 1898 $50,000 with the stipulation that not more than 5% interest be paid on the loan.[12] In 1894 he had been given the authority "to raise money at any time to renew, replace, or pay any existing loans . . ."[13]

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1. Town Records, I, p. 90
2. Ibid., p. 105
3. Ibid., p. 136
4. Ibid., III, p. 41
5. Idem
6. Ibid., p. 102
7. Ibid., p. 113
8. Ibid., p. 159
9. Ibid., p. 175
10. Ibid., IV, p. 12
11. Ibid., p. 66
12. Ibid., pp. 116, 170
13. Ibid., p. 68

Treasurer

In 1900 the position of treasurer was separated from that of town clerk. After this year the treasurer was elected for a one-year term at the annual town meeting, the system still used.[1] The sum of $60,000 was borrowed in 1907 to pay on town loans,[2] and in 1909 another Holbrook Water Loan was issued for $4,000. This sum was used to pay for an extension of water mains on Center Street.[3]

It was voted in 1915 to restrict the length of time that any one treasurer might serve to a period of five years.[4] This rule was rescinded in 1920, however.[5] In the same year the treasurer borrowed $3,500 to be used to modernize the fire department and purchase two fire trucks.[6] In 1928 authorization was given to float a loan of $112,000 for the purpose of renovating the Sumner High School.[7] A similar transaction was undertaken in 1933, when the town voted that $50,000 be spent on a PWA project to remodel the Franklin Street School.[8] In 1935 the treasurer was authorized to accept on behalf of the town a federal grant for its share of the cost of a filtration system for the joint Holbrook-Randolph water supply.[9]

The present duties of the treasurer consist of the handling of all receipts for money collected and the payment upon warrants of all money spent by town departments; the custody of trust funds exclusive of the one held by the Holbrook Library; the responsibility for the banking accounts held by the town and the submission of annual reports on the town's finances.[10] Since 1926 his books have been audited annually by the state division of accounts.[11] His salary in 1939 was $807.50.[12]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the town office vault, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street. In addition to the following records, see entry 96 for collector's report of payments to treasurer 1880--; entry 104-iv for collector's order of refund of abatement 1938--.

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1. Town Records, V, p. 28; Annual Reports, 1939, p. 265 et seq.
2. Town Records, V, p. 184
3. Ibid., VI, p. 27
4. Ibid., VII, p. 78
5. Idem
6. Ibid., p. 68
7. Ibid., VIII, p. 41
8. Ibid., p. 165
9. Ibid., p. 224
10. Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 71 et seq.
11. Ibid., pp. 66, 67; see also entry 3.
12. Ibid., p. 57

Reports

105. (ANNUAL REPORT OF TREASURER), 1873-1938. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.

Total amounts of receipts from all sources, expenditures on selectmen's warrants. Also includes:

i. Breakdown of receipts and expenditures, 1873-1917: Name of payer, payee; amount, source or purpose of receipt or expenditure.

ii. List of assets and liabilities, 1873-1917: Amount, description of liability, asset; total amount of indebtedness.

iii. Trust funds, 1906-24: Name, purpose of fund; amount of principal, interest, expenditure; nature of investment.

iv. Statement of cash on hand, 1922--: Amount of cash on hand at beginning of year, total receipts for year, amount on hand at end of year.

v. Uncollected taxes, 1896-1922: Net town indebtedness, total amounts received from other towns; total amount, year of assessment of uncollected taxes.

Receipts and Expenditures

(See also entry 96)

106. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - CASH - TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 1872--. 10 vols. (dated).

Receipts from tax collections, sale and rental of town property miscellaneous sources: Name of payer, department credited; amount, source, date of receipt. Expenditures for department expenses; interest and principal payments on loans, insurance: Name of payee, department charged; amount, accounting, date of expenditure. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 352 pp. 16½ x 13 x 1½. 8 vols., 1872-1925, bsmt. va., T. H.; 2 vols., 1926--, town off. va.

107. (Stubs of) TREASURER'S RECEIPTS (for Cash Received), 1925--. 1 vol. (B251-B500).

Name of payer; amount, check number (if any) of payment, date of receipt, signature of treasurer. Arr. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 250 pp. 3 x 11 x 1½. Bookcase, town off.

108. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - JOURNAL - TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 1916-24. 1 vol. System estab. 1916, discont. 1924.

Original recording of departmental appropriations, adjusting and closing bookkeeping entries, transfers of appropriations between departments: Name of department or account, amount credited, debited; explanation; number, date of entry; page reference to Town of Holbrook - Cash - Treasury Department, entry 106. Arr. chron. and thereunder by entry no. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 13½ x 8½ x 1.

109. LEDGER - TREASURER - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1872-1915. 11 vols. (dated). System discont. 1915.

Summary of accounts as posted from Town of Holbrook - Cash - Treasury

Department, entry 106. Name, number of account; amount, date of debit, credit posting; account balance. Arr. by name of account. No index. Hdw. 375 pp. 16 x 11 x 1½. Bsmt. va.

110. (SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL PAYMENTS TO TREASURER), 1925--. 13 bdls. 1 folder (dated). Prior records destroyed.
Name of department; purpose, source, amount of payment; total amount, number, date of schedule; statement, signature of department head. Arr. by date of receipt by treas. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. Bdls., 12 x 4 x 4; folder, 12 x 8 x ½. 13 bdls., 1925-37, bsmt. va., T. H.; 1 folder, 1938--, town off. va.
For schedule kept by accountant 1938--, see entry 128-v.

Checks and Bank Records

111. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - CHECK REGISTER (and Stub Book) - TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 1916--. 14 vols. (12 vols., 1916-24, labeled by incl. check nos., dated; 2 vols., 1925--, dated).
Stubs of checks, 1916-24; check register, 1925--: Name of payee, voucher number; amount, number, date of check. Arr. by number and date of check. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 10½ x 5½ x ½ to 300 pp. 14 x 14 x 2. 12 vols., 1916-24, bsmt. va., T. H., 2 vols., 1925--, town off. va.

112. (CANCELED CHECKS), 1925--. 20 file boxes (labeled by inclusive check nos., dated). Prior records destroyed.
Name of payee, department charged; name, address of bank; amount, number, date of check; signature of treasurer. Includes names of endorsers and cancellation stamp of bank. Arr. by date of return of canceled checks. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4½ x 10 x 25. 17 file boxes, 1925-35, bsmt. va., T. H.; 3 file boxes, 1936--, town off. va.

113. (Stubs of Checks on) THE MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK OF BOSTON, 1935-37. 1 vol.
Record of checks issued for construction of schoolhouse by Public Works Administration: Name of payee, bank; previous, present bank balance; amount, number, date of check. Arr. by check no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 9½ x 13½ x ½.

Tax Title Records
(See also entry 104-i)

114. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - TAX TITLES - TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 1932--. 1 vol. System estab. 1932.
Record of property taken for nonpayment of taxes: Name, address of property owner; amount, date of unpaid tax; amount, total amount of fees, interest, other charges; volume and page reference to recording in county

registry of deeds; date of sale of property, notification to town accountant. Includes amount, date of partial payment of redemption. Arr. alph. by name of property owner. Indexed alph. by name of property owner. Hdw. on ptd. form. 50 pp. 12 x 9½ x 1.

115. (TAX COLLECTOR'S CERTIFICATION OF SUBSEQUENT TAX TITLE ACCOUNTS), 1932--. 1 vol. System estab. 1932.

Record of taxes and costs added to original tax title accounts: Name of original, subsequent property owner; citation of law, year of original tax sale; certification, amount of subsequent tax and costs; amount of interest; total amount of tax, costs, interest; date of interest computation, certification by tax collector; date of notification to state auditor; signature of tax collector, treasurer, accountant; volume and page reference to Town of Holbrook - Tax Titles - Treasury Department, entry 114. Includes statement of addition of subsequent tax and costs to tax title accounts. Arr. alph. by name of original property owner. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 11 x 17½ x ½.

Notes and Bills Payable

116. BOOK OF FORMS FOR ISSUING TOWN NOTES, 1928--. 25 vols. (marked by book and inclusive certificate nos.). System estab. 1928.

Record of notes issued: Name, address of payee; number, amount, interest rate of note; amount, purpose, previous issues of loan; balance unissued; date of issue, expiration of note; date of town meeting authorizing loan, date of filing with state department of corporations and taxation; signatures of selectmen, treasurer, town clerk. Arr. by no. of note issued. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 10 pp. 13 x 18½ x ¼. 16 vols., 1928-33, bsmt. va., T. H.; 9 vols., 1934--, town off. va.

117. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - DEBT RECORD - TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 1920--. 2 vols. (dated).

Record of notes and bills payable: Name of lender or creditor; authority for loan; amount, purpose, interest rate, number, date of loan; amount of principal, interest payable; place, date note payable; amount, due date of bill. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 60 pp. 8 x 10½ x ½, 120 pp. 12½ x 18 x 1.

Miscellaneous

118. LETTERS, 1931--. 2 cardboard file boxes (dated). Prior records destroyed.

Correspondence between treasurer and town, county and state officials on financial matters. Arr. alph. by name of correspondent. No index. Hdw. or typed. 12 x 11½ x 3.

Treasurer -
Miscellaneous [119]

119. (RECORD OF RECIPIENTS OF SOLDIERS' RELIEF AND STATE AID), Jan. 1915 - Apr. 1917. 1 vol. (dated).
Name of soldier, recipient; amount, number, date of payment; signature of recipient. Arr. alph. by name of recipient and thereunder by month of receipt. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 79 pp. 13 x 12¼ x 1¼.

VII. TOWN ACCOUNTANT[1]

A board of three auditors was elected by ballot at the first town meeting in 1872, to serve for a period of one year.[2] Except for the years 1874 and 1875,[3] when only two were elected, the auditors were elected annually in the same manner through 1915.[4]

Charges of irregularities in town accounts in 1915[5] led to a change in the auditor's office the following year, when a municipal accountant was employed to investigate the accounts of all departments from 1885 to 1916.[6] The accountant recommended the installation of a more adequate system of accounting which would assure centralization of all financial information in the hands of the selectmen.[7] A meeting on August 31, 1915, gave the selectmen authority to appoint a single auditor annually, a method continued until 1923.[8]

The town voted in 1923 to apply to the Commonwealth for the installation of an accounting system.[9] At a meeting in November of the following year it was voted that the office of town accountant be created and that the selectmen thereafter be authorized to make the appointments as prescribed in the General Laws. The term of office is three years.[10]

The accountant's reports are audited annually by the division of accountants, state department of corporations and taxation.[11] The accountant renders annual statements of receipts and expenditures, a function once performed by the selectmen.

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1. For the statutory origin and duties of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 16
3. Ibid., pp. 87, 104
4. Ibid., VI, p. 149
5. Annual Reports, 1916, pp. 55-66 incl.
6. Town Records, VI, p. 160
7. Annual Reports, 1916, pp. 55-66 incl.
8. Ibid., 1916-1923 passim; Town Records, VI, p. 124
9. Town Records, VI, p. 124
10. Ibid., p. 174
11. See entry 3.

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the town office vault, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street.

Reports

120. (ANNUAL REPORT OF AUDITORS, ACCOUNTANT), 1883-84, 1886, 1888, 1890-99, 1902-23, 1925--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Certification by auditors, 1883-1923 irregularly; accountant, 1925--, of examination and verification of accounts of collecting and disbursing town officers. 1925-- includes recapitulation of receipts from taxes, interest, bonds, fines, licenses, funds; expenditures for salaries, public welfare, interest on loans, municipal and bonded indebtedness, departmental expenditures; balance sheet.
For annual report of state audit 1924--, see entry 3.

General Accounts

121. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - CASH - ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, 1925--. 3 vols. (1-3, dated). System estab. 1925.
Original record of cash receipts and expenditures:
i. Receipts: Name of payer, department credited; amount, source, date of receipt; total monthly receipts, bank balance; page reference to Town of Holbrook - Ledger - Accounting Department, entry 123.
ii. Expenditures: Name of payee; warrant, transaction number; amount, purpose, date of expenditure; total monthly, yearly expenditure; page reference to Town of Holbrook - Ledger - Accounting Department, entry 123.
Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 352 pp. 16½ x 13 x 1½.

122. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - JOURNAL - ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, 1925--. (dated). System estab. 1925.
Original recording of closing and adjusting entries: Name of account; amount, credited, debited, number, date of entry; page reference to Town of Holbrook - Cash - Accounting Department, entry 121. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 11½ x 11½ x 1.

123. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - LEDGER - ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, 1916--. 6 vols. (dated).
Record of final postings from cash book and journal:
i. Receipts: Amount of appropriation; amount, source, date of receipt; date of accounting period, page reference to Town of Holbrook - Cash - Accounting Department, entry 121, or Town of Holbrook Journal - Accounting Department, entry 122.
ii. Disbursements: Name, division of department; page number reference to cash book, number of treasury warrant; amount, date of disbursement; page reference to Town of Holbrook - Cash - Accounting Department, entry 121, or Town of Holbrook - Journal-Accounting Department, entry 122.
Arr. alph. by name of dept., chron. entry. No index. Hdw. 400 pp. 11½ x 11½ x 4. 2 vols., 1916-24, bsmt. va., T. H.; 4 vols., 1925--, town off. va.

124. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - CLASSIFICATION OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, 1925--. 4 vols. (dated). System estab. 1925.

Record book explaining postings to Town of Holbrook - Ledger - Accounting Department, entry 123:

i. Receipts: Name of payer, entry number; amount, source, date of receipt.

ii. Disbursements: Name of town, department, payee; voucher number, date of bill; amount, purpose, date of payment.

Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 19½ x 12 x 1.

125. TOWN OF HOLBROOK - TREASURY WARRANT, 1925--. 3 vols. (dated). System estab. 1925.

Warrants from department heads to treasurer authorizing payment of bills: Name of department, payee; amount debited; itemization, total amount of payment; voucher number, date of warrant; signatures of selectmen, accountant. Arr. by voucher no. No index. Typed on ptd. form. 500 pp. 14 x 9½ x 4.

126. (RECORD OF PAID VOUCHERS), 1925--. 29 filing cases (marked by inclusive voucher nos., dated). Prior records destroyed.

Name, address of creditor, department presenting voucher; amount, itemization, date of bill; fund or appropriation to be charged; number, date of voucher. Arr. by no. and date of voucher. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 4½ x 25 x 4. 22 filing cases, 1925-37, bsmt. va., T. H.; 7 filing cases, 1937--, town off. va.

Miscellaneous

127. (ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE FROM OTHER TOWNS FOR RELIEF AID GIVEN), 1925--. 1 vol. System estab. 1925.

Control sheets showing record of aid given to residents of Holbrook having legal settlement in other towns: Name of debtor, town, recipient; amount due, date of bill; amount, date of payment. Arr. alph. by name of recipient. No index. Hdw. 550 pp. 14 x 9½ x 4.

For copies of bills to other towns 1872--, see entry 9-iv.

128. (Correspondence, Miscellaneous Work Sheets, and Tabulations of) TOWN ACCOUNTANT, 1938--. 1 file drawer. Prior records destroyed.

Contains:

i. Correspondence between accountant and town officials.

ii. Departmental work sheets showing tabulations on foreclosures of tax title accounts, and reconciliation of treasurer's accounts.

iii. Monthly list of motor vehicle excise taxes abated: Name of taxpayer; amount, total amount, purpose, date of abatement; date of tax notice, list; signatures of assessors.

iv. Monthly list of property taxes abated: Name of taxpayer; description of property; amount, total amount, purpose of abatement; citation of law; date of assessment, tax notice, list;

signatures of assessors.

v. Schedule of payments by other town departments to treasurer: Name of department, payer; total amount of payments received; amount, source, date of payment; date of period covered by payment, signature of department official.

vi. Town clerk's monthly return of dog licenses issued and fees collected: Name of town, county, state; month and year for which return is made; amount of fees sent to treasurer; serial numbers of licenses issued, voided, granted; gross amount of fees collected, deducted; net return of fees; date of return, signature of town clerk.

Arr. alph. by name of dept. and thereunder by date of letter or work sheet. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 11 x 3 x 25. Cabinet.

129. (INSURANCE POLICIES ON TOWN PROPERTY), 1903, 1925--. 1 bdl. 1 file drawer.

Name, address of insurance company; name of town; amount of premium, insurance; location, description, value of property insured; term, provisions, date of policy; signatures of company officials. No arr. No index. Typed on ptd. form. Bdl., 4½ x 8 x 4; file drawer, 4½ x 15 x 13½.

VIII. FINANCE COMMITTEE[1]

When the town adopted a set of bylaws in 1872, it was provided that "no money shall be paid by the treasurer except on order of the selectman."[2] In 1886, however, this check on expenditures was further strengthened by the action of the meeting in instructing the moderator to appoint a committee of five who were to submit the names of nine persons to act "in the matter of appropriations."[3] In 1893 the moderator appointed another committee, this time one of ten members, "to look over the needs of the town and report at the next meeting."[4]

Various committees functioned in considering appropriations and recommendations until February 2, 1914, when it was voted that thereafter the town should annually elect a committee to be known as the appropriations committee. Nine persons were elected to be a 'committee on finance' and regulations accepted which required that all requests for appropriations be submitted to it.[5] The following year the town authorized the

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1. For the statutory origin and duties of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Bylaws, art. X, in Annual Reports, 1873
3. Town Records, III, p. 31
4. Ibid., IV, p. 54
5. Ibid., V, pp. 134, 135

moderator to "bring in the names" for the finance committee membership.[1] Another important change in the committee came in 1926 when it was voted to increase the membership of the finance committee to fifteen.[2] This change was made a part of the amended bylaws in 1927.[3]

The bylaws state that the finance committee shall be appointed annually by the moderator, and that five of the members of the committee shall represent the Brookville section of the town. It is stipulated that all warrants for town meetings, after having been drawn up by the selectmen, shall be submitted to each member of the finance committee, which later makes its report stating which requests for expenditures it considers to be in the town's best interests. The committee is empowered to select its own officers, and all members of it except the secretary serve without pay.[4]

In addition to the following records, see entry 2-xiv for recommendations of finance committee 1928--.

130. (MINUTES OF MEETINGS), 1920--. 1 vol.
Roll call of members present, reports of members, action taken on reports, recommendations for town budget, date of meeting. Arr. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 300 pp. 8½ x 11 x 1. Residence of George Dorman (secy.), 3 Pleasant St.

131. (ANNUAL REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE), 1928--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report showing amounts, purposes of transfers from reserve fund; table of appropriations showing name of department, purpose of appropriation; amount spent in current and preceding years, amount asked and recommended for ensuing year. Includes amounts recommended for reserve fund, interest, and maturing debt.

IX. SCHOOL COMMITTEE[5]

The school committee of Holbrook is one of the offices which were filled at the first annual town meeting and has undergone no changes in the number of its members or the method of election to the present time. Three persons were elected in 1872 for terms of one, two and three years

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1. Town Records, V, p. 153
2. Ibid., VII, p. 4
3. Bylaws, art. XXIII, secs. 1, 2, 3, in Annual Reports, 1939
4. Idem
5. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.

respectively and their successors for three-year terms.[1]

During the first year the committee was empowered to rename the schools which the town had acquired from Randolph at the time of the separation of the two communities.[2] Later that year it set tuition rates for out-of-town pupils[3] and met with the Randolph school committee to effect an arrangement whereby Holbrook children living near Randolph might attend school in the latter town.[4] The committee also was authorized to obtain a lot for a new school in District No. 7.[5]

One of the most persistent early problems of the committee was the matter of uniting Holbrook in a school union with other towns for reasons of economy in school administration. In 1880 the committee was authorized to meet with the school committees of nearby towns on the question.[6] This attempt appears to have met with failure; by 1888 there was still no mention of such an officer in the annual reports, and the school committee recommended that "the town employ one who shall act as superintendent of schools. Most of the towns about us have adopted this plan with the best results."[7] A year later the committee reported that "your committee consulted with school committees of neighboring towns with the hope that they could recommend a plan which might be adopted . . but no feasible plan has opened up to us this far."[8] In 1890 the complaint was made that the town still had taken no action to employ a superintendent, although a member of the State Board of Education had recommended that Holbrook, Stoughton and Avon become a school district.[9]

The question was brought to a vote at the annual town meeting of 1891 when it was voted to unite with Avon, Stoughton, Whitman, Abington, Randolph, Sharon, or any one of them, to employ a superintendent.[10] No appointment of a superintendent was made, however; in August of the same year an appropriation for the superintendent's salary was transferred back to the general school appropriation.[11]

The committee renewed its plea to become part of a district with Randolph and Avon, which had already been agreed to by the committees of the three towns, in 1899 and inserted the proposal in the warrant for the

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1. Town Records, I, p. 15 to VII, p. 274 passim
2. Ibid., I, p. 27
3. Ibid., p. 33
4. Idem
5. Idem
6. Ibid., II, p. 47
7. Annual Reports, 1889, p. 50
8. Ibid., 1890, p. 48
9. Ibid., 1891, pp. 46-48 incl.
10. Town Records, III, p. 174
11. Ibid., p. 187

succeeding annual meeting.[1] In 1900 it called attention to the fact that in July, 1902, the appointment of a superintendent would become compulsory, and that after that date the state would have the right to assign the town to some district. It again asked the town to take action.[2] The following year (1901) it reported that since July 1st the town had at last become a part of the district that included Randolph and Avon.[3] The first report of the superintendent appears in the annual town report issued at the end of the year.[4] The three towns still constitute a school union.[5]

The committee was made a special body to make recommendations on the purchase of land adjoining a school in 1890.[6] It secured a new school building in 1882,[7] submitted plans for a new two-story school on Plymouth Street in 1893[8] and the following year was given an appropriation for a new primary school in Brookville.[9] The remodelling of the high school at a cost of $112,000 was voted in 1928,[10] and in 1934 the chairman of the school committee was authorized to act with the selectmen in the signing of a contract with the Public Works Administration for the remodelling of the Franklin Street School.[11]

The committee was empowered to act with the selectmen to obtain truant officers in 1881; it was specified in the vote that either the committee or the selectmen might name the officers.[12] In 1888 the committee was given the authority to determine what action should be taken regarding habitual truants.[13]

In 1906 the General Court passed an act requiring the school committees in towns to appoint one or more school physicians to examine children except in those towns in which the board of health was already performing this duty. It provided, also, for periodical tests of pupils' sight and hearing by teachers or principals.[14] The next annual meeting voted that the matter of medical inspection in the schools be left to the school committee, and made an appropriation of $25 for the purpose.[15]

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1. Annual Reports, 1899, pp. 80, 88
2. Ibid., 1900, p. 72
3. Ibid., 1901, p. 63
4. Ibid., pp. 68-76 incl.
5. Ibid., 1939, p. 195
6. Town Records, III, p. 137
7. Ibid., II, p. 128
8. Ibid., IV, p. 47
9. Ibid., p. 65
10. Ibid., VIII, p. 41
11. Ibid., p. 189
12. Ibid., II, p. 74
13. Ibid., III, p. 74
14. Acts, 1906, chap. 502
15. Annual Reports, 1907, p. 45

A report by the school physician appears that year, but not again until 1914.[1] The superintendent reported to the school committee in 1908 that only 28 towns and cities in Massachusetts had no regular school physician, and that Holbrook was one of them.[2] In 1910 a similar statement was made.[3] In 1914, however, the school physician made his first formal annual report, and appropriations for his salary are found from that time to the present.[4] The same incumbent has held the office since its establishment.[5]

Minutes and Reports

132. (MINUTES OF MEETINGS), 1928--. 1 vol.
Names of members present; discussions, action on school matters, finances, correspondence; time, place, date, of meeting; time, date of adjournment; signature of clerk of committee. Arr. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 8½ x 11 x 1. Residence of Norman F. Baker (secy.), 23 Winter St.

133. (ANNUAL REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE), 1879--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report relative to school buildings, repairs, equipment, teachers, students, courses of study, books, attendance, health, finances; recommendations, 1879-1936. Also contains:

i. Appropriations:
   a. Total appropriation for schools, 1879-1927.
   b. Statement of appropriations, 1922-27: List of appropriations showing purpose, estimated amount for ensuing year.
   c. List of appropriations showing purpose and comparison with those of previous year, 1928--.
   d. List of appropriations showing purpose and actual amount expended, 1928--.

ii. Courses of study for high school, 1886, 1892, 1897.

iii. Graduation program for high school, 1890, 1892, 1900.

iv. Honor roll, 1888-89, 1892: Names of students not absent or tardy during school year, classified by school.

v. Receipts and expenditures:
   a. List of receipts showing source, 1879-1932.
   b. List of expenditures for teachers' salaries, janitors' salaries, materials, supplies, equipment, repairs, fuel and light, miscellaneous, 1879--.

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1. Annual Reports, 1907, p. 103 to 1914, p. 144 passim
2. School committee report, p. 13, in Annual Reports, 1908
3. Ibid., 1910, p. 129
4. Ibid., 1914, p. 144 to 1939, p. 262 passim
5. Ibid., p. 232 passim

vi. School calendar, 1908--: Dates of opening and closing schools, vacations; list of holidays, no school signals.
vii. Statistics relative to enrollment, attendance, membership, age and sex of students, 1886-99.
viii. Teachers, 1891, 1897, 1899, 1900, 1903: Name, grade taught, where educated; 1891 includes salary.

Financial Records
(See also entry 2-iv b,g,j,p)

134. SCHOOL COMMITTEE JOURNAL - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1898--. 3 vols. (dated). System estab. 1898.
Record of monthly expenditures: Amount of salaries of superintendent, teachers, janitors; monthly cost of supplies, overhead, school and playground equipment, balance of appropriation at beginning, end of month. Arr. by month. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 14 x 11 x 1. 2 vols., 1898-1927, bsmt. va., T. H.; North Franklin St.; 1 vol., 1928--, residence of Louis R. Chase (cl.), 28 Adams St.

135. (LEDGER OF EXPENDITURES), 1928--. 1 vol. System estab. 1928.
Name of payee; amount, purpose, date of payment; voucher number; classification of general instruction, school operating maintenance, tuition, transportation expenses by schools; cost of school library and health department; amounts paid for equipment, new land, buildings; amount of interest charges, sinking fund payments. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 400 pp. 12 x 17 x 5. Residence of Louis R. Chase (cl.), 28 Adams St.

136. CASH (Payments for Salaries), 1906. 1 vol.
Name of payee, school; description of services rendered; amount, date of payment; total amount of payments. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Hdw. 145 pp. $10\frac{1}{2}$ x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Bsmt. va., T. H., North Franklin St.

X. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS[1]

Since July 1, 1901, Holbrook has been part of a school district which includes Randolph and Avon, and the three towns jointly employ a school superintendent.[2] Efforts to secure the services of a superintendent had been made as early as 1880, however.[3]

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Annual Reports, 1901, p. 63
3. Town Records, II, p. 47

The superintendent made his first annual report in 1901. It included statistics on the schools and a report from the principal of the high school.[1] The next year he reported the appointment of a supervisor of drawing;[2] an instructor in shorthand and typewriting made her first report to him in 1905.[3] A supervisor of music was appointed in 1912.[4]

In 1906, the legislature provided for the examination of the eyes and ears of pupils,[5] but not until 1914 was a regular school physician appointed.[6] In 1919 he reported that the Holbrook Visiting Nurse Association employed a nurse who had been working in the schools, but regretted the fact that she could not spend more time in them and recommended that a district nurse be employed to serve Holbrook, Randolph and Avon.[7] In 1921 he reported that a nurse had been appointed[8] by law.[9]

The union superintendent is appointed by the joint school committee of the three towns for a term of three years. He makes annual reports to the school committee and receives yearly reports from the various schools, from the supervisors of music and drawing, the school nurse and the school physician.[10] Under his supervision are the six schools in the Holbrook - Brookville area, three principals, 17 teachers and other school employees.[11]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the superintendent's office, first floor, Town Hall, Crawford Square, Randolph.

Reports
(See also entry 144-ii)

137. (ANNUAL REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS), 1901--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report relative to school buildings, teachers, students, courses of study, books, attendance, health, finances, recommendations. 1902 includes report of dedicatory exercises of new school building; 1910 includes quotation of state laws governing school attendance. Also contains:
i. Appropriation for and net cost of schools, 1932--.

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1. Annual Reports, 1901, pp. 68-76 incl.
2. Ibid., 1902, p. 78
3. Ibid., 1905, p. 98
4. Ibid., 1912, p. 140
5. Acts, 1906, chap. 502
6. Annual Reports, 1914, p. 144
7. Ibid., 1919, p. 49
8. Ibid., 1921, p. 103
9. Acts, 1921, chap. 357, sec. 2
10. Ibid., 1939, pp. 206-239 incl.
11. Idem

ii. Awards and scholarships, 1932: Names of recipients.
iii. Courses of study for the various schools and grades, 1901, 1905-6, 1908, 1912, 1916-17, 1932-34.
iv. Graduates, 1911--: Names of graduates from elementary, junior and senior high schools.
v. Graduation program for high school, 1916--.
vi. Honor roll, 1902-29: Names of students not absent or tardy during school year, classified by school.
vii. Narrative reports relative to courses of study, aims, and methods, by the following:
a. High school principal, 1901-02, 1908--.
b. Supervisor of drawing, 1902-07, 1916-17, 1920-23, 1925-30, 1932--.
c. Supervisor of music, 1912-13, 1915-16, 1919--.
d. Teacher of shorthand and typewriting, 1904.
viii. Receipts from State showing purpose of appropriation, 1932--.
ix. Statistics relative to enrollment, attendance, membership, ages and sex of students. 1917-- includes population and valuation of the town.
x. Teachers, 1926--: Name, grade or subject taught, where educated, year appointed.

138. SCHOOL RETURNS, 1917--. 22 vols. (dated). Required by law 1917.
Copies of enrollment returns made to state department of education: Names, addresses, terms of office of members of school committee; names, salaries of superintendent, teachers, nurse, school doctor; number, qualifications of teachers; number of pupils in local, out-of-town schools; number, value of school buildings; date of return. No arr. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 6 pp. 11½ x 9¼ x ½. Bookcase.

Pupils' Records

139. SCHOOL REGISTER (of Pupils' Attendance), 1897-1903. 4 vols. (dated).
Name of school; name, register number of pupil; number of days present, absent; number of times tardy, dismissed; totals for month, period of school term. Arr. alph. by name of pupil and by register no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 12 x 9½ x 1. Bsmt. va., T. H., North Franklin St.

140. SCHOOL RECORDS, 1904--. 2 file boxes. System estab. 1904.
Name, address, age, grade, health, attendance, conduct, scholarship, place and date of birth of pupil; name of school, teacher; name, occupation of parents or guardian; statement regarding vaccination; date of admission, discharge; age at time of discharge. Arr. alph. by name of pupil. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 7 x 7 x 25.

141. PUPILS' REPORT CARD, 1897--. 4 vols., 3 file boxes. (4 vols., 1897-1903, dated; 3 file boxes, 1904--, undated). Title varies: Complete School Records, 1897-1903, 4 vols.

1897-1903: Name, class, attendance record, birthplace, birthdate of pupil; name, address, occupation of parents or guardian; height of pupil standing, sitting; summary of attendance record, last school attended, schedule of rating; monthly, yearly rating of pupil by subject; book number assigned, number of class to which transferred; date of transfer, discharge; signature of teacher. 1904--: Name of school; name, grade, room number of pupil; periodic rating of pupil by subject, schedule of ratings, signature of teacher. Includes promotion record showing name of town, pupil; statement of promotion; number of grades in school system, weeks in school year; date of promotion; signature of teacher, superintendent. Arr. alph. by name of pupil. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. Vols., 80 pp. 14 x 8½ x ½; file boxes, 7 x 7 x 25. 4 vols., 1897-1903, bsmt. va., T. H., North Franklin St., Holbrook; 3 file boxes, 1904--, supt. off., T. H., Crawford Sq., Randolph.

142. CENSUS CARDS, 1899--. 10 vols., 3 file boxes. (10 vols., 1899-1908, 1-10, dated; 3 file boxes, 1909--, unlabeled). Title varies: School Census - Holbrook, Mass., 1899-1908, 10 vols.

1899-1908: Age, sex, registration number, birthdate of pupil; name, address of parent or guardian. 1909--: Name, address, age, attendance record, birthplace, birthdate of pupil; name, birthplace of parent or guardian; name of school last attended; date of record, employment certificate; remarks. Arr. alph. by name of child. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. Vols., 25 pp. 9½ x 12 x ¼; file boxes, 7 x 7 x 25. 10 vols., 1899-1908, bsmt. va., T. H., Holbrook; 3 file boxes, 1909--, cabinet, supt. off., T. H., Crawford Sq., Randolph.

143. EDUCATION CERTIFICATES, 1939--. 1 bdl. in 1 file box. Prior records destroyed.

Returns of working certificates by employers of minors: Name, address, age, sex, date of birth of minor; name of school last attended; name, address, business of employer; number, date of certificate; signature of employer, school superintendent. Arr. alph. by name of minor and thereunder by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 7 x 7 x 25. Drawer.

Miscellaneous

144. (CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS), 1928--. 3 file boxes.

Contains:

i. Correspondence between school department and state, towns, and other schools.

ii. Reports from principals, teachers, nurses, and school authorities relative to school work.

Arr. alph. by name of correspondent and thereunder by date of letter. No index. Hdw. or typed on plain and ptd. form. 18 x 48 x 36.

145. TEACHERS' REGISTER, 1900--. 41 vols. (dated).
Record of teachers' absences: Name of teacher, date of absence, name of substitute, dates of attendance of substitute. Arr. by date of absence. No index. Hdw. 50 pp. 10½ x 8 x ¼. Bookcase.

XI. TRUANT OFFICERS[1]

Under the bylaws adopted by the town at the first annual meeting the constables were the first truant officers.[2] In 1876 the town accepted the general statute for the arrest of habitual truants,[3] and in 1881 there is record of the appointment of three truant officers.[4] This appointment followed a vote of the town empowering either the selectmen or the school committee to name the truant officers.[5]

Various expense items for truant officers, usually small, are found in the reports for the next few years.[6] In some of these years the truant officers are shown to be constables.[7] In one year, 1903, one of the officers was also referred to as chief of police,[8] and later as chief of constables.[9]

Since 1891 there have usually been two truant officers, one of them working in the Brookville section.[10] At the present time two persons are engaged in truancy and school census work, one of whom is the chief of police.[11]

146. (ANNUAL REPORT OF TRUANT OFFICERS), 1901-9. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of handling of truancy cases, showing number of cases adjusted, brought to court; recommendations to parents and teachers.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Bylaws, art. XV, in Annual Reports, 1873
3. General Statutes, 1860, chap. 42, sec. 4; Town Records, I, p. 128
4. Town Records, II, p. 74
5. Idem
6. Annual Reports, 1892, p. 9; 1895, p. 14 to 1939 passim
7. Ibid., 1901, p. 83; 1904, p. 2; 1906, p. 82; 1907, pp. 74, 75; 1921, p. 93
8. Ibid., 1903, pp. 16, 17
9. School committee report, pp. 3, 36, in Annual Reports, 1908
10. Annual Reports, 1891, pp. 46, 47
11. Ibid., 1939, p. 202

[147]

XII. SCHOOL PHYSICIAN[1]

An effort to secure a regular school physician for the Holbrook schools was made in 1907, after a legislative act of 1906 had called for regular inspections of school children and the town had placed the matter in the hands of the school committee.[2] A report of examinations of pupils eyes and ears was made that year,[3] but not again until 1914.[4] In 1908 the superintendent of schools told the committee that Holbrook was one of the few towns not having a regular school physician;[5] he repeated this assertion in 1910.[6]

Formal reports of the physician appear irregularly in the annual reports of the town from 1914 to the present time.[7] Appropriations for his salary are found each year, however.[8] Although the school physician is appointed annually by the committee, the same incumbent has held the position since its creation.[9]

147. (ANNUAL REPORT OF SCHOOL PHYSICIAN), 1914-15, 1929-30, 1932, 1934--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of attendance, prevalence of children's diseases, prevention clinics, visits to schools, examinations of pupils; recommendations.

XIII. SCHOOL NURSE[1]

In 1919 the superintendent of schools recommended the employment of a school nurse, declaring that the nurse supplied at that time through the assistance of the Holbrook Visiting Nurse Association could not devote enough time to the school duties.[10] No action was taken, however, until in 1921 the General Court enacted a measure providing for the appointment of one or more nurses by the towns united in school unions.[11]

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Acts, 1906, chap. 502; Annual Reports, 1907, p. 45
3. Annual Reports, 1907, p. 103
4. Ibid., 1914, p. 144
5. School committee report, p. 13, in Annual Reports, 1908
6. Annual Reports, 1910, p. 129
7. Ibid., 1914, p. 144 to 1939, p. 232 passim
8. Ibid., 1914 to 1939 passim
9. Ibid., 1914, p. 144 to 1939, p. 232
10. Annual Reports, 1919, p. 49
11. Acts, 1921, chap. 357, sec. 2

In that year one was appointed for Holbrook at a salary of $600.[1] In 1929 the salary was raised to $750,[2] and in 1938 to $850.[3] The nurse makes visits to the homes of school children, assists in physical examinations, and visits the schools at regular intervals. Appropriations are made from the school budget for her salary,[4] and she is appointed annually by the superintendent.[5]

148. (ANNUAL REPORT OF SCHOOL NURSE), 1921--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative reports showing number of visits to schools, general and special examinations, treatments given; amount of money derived from Red Cross and sale of Christmas seals; recommendations and comments.

149. NURSE'S WEEKLY REPORT CARDS, 1925--. 1 file box. System estab. 1925.
Report to superintendent of schools: Name of school visited; time, date of visit; description of work done, date of report, date of receipt by superintendent. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. 7 x 7 x 25.

150. PHYSICAL RECORD, 1921--. 3 file drawers. System estab. 1921. Name, address, grade, sex, physical description, condition, personal history, birthplace, date of birth of pupil; name of school; names, birthplaces, occupations of parents; names of brothers, sisters; name of family physician; standards for grading pupil, defects requiring treatment, date of periodic examinations, remarks. Arr. alph. by name of pupil. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 48 x 14 x 25. Principal's off., first fl., Franklin School, North Franklin St.

XIV. TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY[6]

A group of nine citizens was elected on April 7th, 1873, to serve as trustees of the public library.[7] The term of office was one year; the following year three trustees were elected to serve, one for one year, one for two years and one for three years. One trustee was elected annually thereafter for a year term.[8]

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1. Annual Reports, 1921, p. 34
2. Ibid., 1929, p. 129
3. Ibid., 1938, p. 176
4. Ibid., 1939, p. 197
5. Information obtained from Adolph D. Christiansen, superintendent of schools (July 1940), by field worker.
6. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
7. Town Records, I, p. 59
8. Ibid., p. 86; Annual Reports, 1939, p. 4

With an appropriation of $5,000, the library was opened on August 12, 1874.[1] On Christmas morning of 1877, however, the burning of the Town Hall caused the loss of nearly all books and fixtures in the library.[2] The trustees temporarily conducted the institution at the home of the librarian, with about 300 books which had been saved.[3]

The library has been the recipient of several funds established for it since its founding, and for a number of years one of the trustees has been the library treasurer.[4] The trustees appoint a librarian, an assistant, and a janitor.[5]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the Public Library, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street.

Minutes and Reports

151. HOLBROCK PUBLIC LIBRARY (Minutes of Trustees' Meetings), 1913--.
1 vol.
Hearing, discussion of report of treasurer of trustees, librarian; discussion of financial condition of library, increase in circulation; time, place, date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 300 pp. 10½ x 8 x 1. Safe.

152. (ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY), 1875--.
In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of administration and policy, accessions, total expenditures. Also contains:

i. Report of librarian: Number of borrowers, volumes; monthly, annual circulation totals. 1875-99 includes number of gifts; amount of cash on hand, receipts from fines.

ii. Report of treasurer, 1876--; Classification of receipts, expenditures, invested funds.

Book Records

153. ACCESSIONS, 1872--. 2 vols. (dated).
Record of books purchased: Name of author, title, serial number, size, binding, cost of book; place, date published, purchased. Arr. by date of purchase and thereunder by serial no. of book. For index, see entry 154. Hdw. on ptd. form. 400 pp. 10½ x 8½ x 2. Va.

154. (INDEX TO ACCESSIONS), 1872--. 15 file boxes (A-Z).
Name of author, number of volumes in set; title, serial number, date of accession of book. Arr. alph. by title of book. Typed. 36 x 45 x 25.

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1. Annual Reports, 1876, p. 39 et seq.
2. Ibid., 1879, p. 28
3. Idem
4. Ibid., 1935, p. 118. For an account of the funds received by the library, see pp. 17, 24, 25
5. Ibid., 1939, pp. 146-151 incl.

Borrowers' Records

155. (BORROWER'S APPLICATION CARD), 1872--. 3 file drawers. Name, address, occupation, place of business, telephone and serial number of borrower; age if minor, agreement to abide by library rules, expiration date of card, signature of borrower. Arr. by serial no. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 4 x 4½ x 20 to 18 x 10 x 25.

156. (BORROWER'S REGISTER), 1938--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed. Register of borrowers renewed every three years: Name, address, serial number of borrower; date book loaned. Arr. by serial no. of borrower. No index. Typed. 100 pp. 10 x 9½ x 1. Desk.

157. (CURRENT CARD RECORDS), 1938--. 1 file box. Prior records destroyed.

Contains:

i. Borrower's identification cards (duplicates): Name, address, serial number of borrower; name of town, library; expiration date of card. Includes statement requiring presentation of card and responsibility for book borrowed.

ii. Fine cards: Name, address, serial number of borrower; name of author, title of book; amount of fine, date of overdue notice; date book due, returned, fine paid.

iii. Interlibrary loan cards: Name of author, publisher; names of libraries borrowing, lending books; title of book; date of loan, due date of return.

iv. Loan cards: Name of author, serial number of borrower; title, number, due date of book.

v. Overdue notices: Name of author, title of book; serial number of borrower, number of postcard notice, amount of fine, due date of return, signature of librarian.

vi. Reservation cards: Name of borrower; author, title of book; date reservation expires.

Arr. by subject and thereunder by serial no. No index. Typed. 8 x 20 x 9. Desk.

Financial Records
(See also entry 149)

158. CASH BOOK (of Receipts and Expenditures), 1872--. 2 vols. (dated).

Receipts: Name of payer; amount, source, date of receipt; total daily, monthly receipts; balance at end of month. Expenditures: Amount, purpose, date of expenditure; total daily, monthly expenditures. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 8½ x 11 x 1. Va.

XV. BOARD OF HEALTH[1]

Formal mention of a board of health of three members appears in the town records in 1878;[2] since the first town meeting, however, certain activities in connection with health were performed by various officers. At the first annual town meeting it was voted to give the selectmen authority to appoint a town doctor;[3] in other years the overseers of the poor and the school committee employed a physician for investigation of the schools and drinking water and for similar functions.[4] Such a report, called a "sanitary report", was made to the school committee in 1885.[5] In 1893 the board was ordered to "look into the matter and manner in which city swill is brought into the town and disposed of."[6] A request was made in 1895 that efforts be made to "abate nuisances" in piggeries and elsewhere.[7]

Altho the election of a board of health is shown in the records at irregular intervals from 1808 to 1896, it is probable that the board served each year during that period.[8] Beginning in 1896 the three members were elected for one, two and three years, respectively, their successors to be elected for three-year terms.[9] This procedure has continued to date.[10]

One question with which the board has dealt for a number of years has been the matter of garbage disposal. On March 3, 1930, the board of health and the selectmen were made a committee to investigate a possible garbage-disposal system.[11] The moderator appointed two other residents of the town to work with the board in 1934 to make another study of the same question.[12]

In recent years the board has included in its duties the conduct of periodical diphtheria clinics, clinics for rabies examination and the imposition of certain rules regarding the keeping of animals within the town. In some of the school clinics that have been conducted the board has been

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, II, p. 29
3. Ibid., I, p. 17
4. Annual Reports, p. 62; 1887, pp. 51, 62, 65
5. Ibid., 1886, p. 62 et seq.
6. Ibid., IV, p. 34
7. Ibid., p. 103
8. Ibid., II, p. 29; III, pp. 51, 71, 109, 140, 176; IV, pp. 7; 35, 62, 89
9. Ibid., IV, p. 114
10. Ibid., V, pp. 29, 138; VI, pp. 36, 149; VII, pp. 60, 180; VIII, pp. 91, 207, 274
11. Ibid., VIII, p. 98
12. Ibid., p. 179

aided by the school nurse; the appointment of the nurse, however, is not made by the board. The board reports the inspection of dairy barns and the investigation of complaints regarding them.[1]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in a filing cabinet next to town vault in the town office, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street. In addition to the following records, see entry 43 for death certificates, 1923--.

Minutes and Reports

159 RECORDS (Minutes of Meetings), 1934--. 1 vol.
Names of members present, absent; rules, regulations of department; discussions, action on sanitation, health problems, licenses; time, place, date of meeting. Arr. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 198 pp. $10\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$.

160. (ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH), 1895, 1903, 1909-17, 1929--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of work done by the board; number, nature, disposition of complaints; recommendations. Also contains:

i. Contagious diseases reported, 1903, 1909-17, 1929--: Number of each type of contagious disease, totals for year.
ii. Diphtheria clinic, report on, 1929--: Names of physicians, nurses conducting clinic; number of inoculations given.
iii. Inspections and licenses, record of, 1933--: Number of dairy barns inspected; number, kind of licenses issued; totals for year.
iv. Public health nurse, report of, 1934: Number, kind of calls made; number, kinds of examinations; number of clinics held, kinds of treatment given; number of visits made to homes, patients referred to clinics.
v. Rules and regulations for town health, 1895.

161. CHADWICK CLINICS, 1931-33. 1 folder. System discont. 1933.
Reports and letters from State sponsored clinic to board of health: Name of town, school; name, age, height, weight of child; average height, weight for age of child; code number of clinic, results of examination, recommendations of supervisor, date of report; signature of supervisor, doctor. Includes correspondence between clinic and state health department on results of clinical examinations. Arr. by date of report. No index. Reports typed on ptd. form; letters typed. $8\frac{1}{2}$ x $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$.

162. REPORT OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES, 1933--. 2 bdls. (dated). Missing: 1935-37.
Postcards prepared by and returned to board by physician to report contagious diseases: Name, address, age of patient; nature of disease, date of report, signature of physician. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. $3\frac{1}{2}$ x $5\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$.

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1. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 137 et seq.

163. REPORT OF GONORRHEA AND SYPHILIS TO CITIES AND TOWNS, 1934--. 2 bdls. (dated).
Postcards sent to board by state commissioner of public health: Name, address of board of health; number of male, female cases in Holbrook; monthly total of cases, date of report, signature of state commissioner of public health. Arr. by date of report. No index. Typed on ptd. form. 3¼ x 5½ x ¼.

Communicable Diseases
(See also entries 157-ii, 159, 160)

164. RECORD OF DANGEROUS DISEASES - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1915--. 1 vol. System estab. 1915.
Name of informant; name, address, age, school or occupation, settlement status of patient; nature of disease, disposition of case, source of milk supply, reports of state laboratories; date of sickness, isolation, recovery; date notices sent to board of health, state agencies; remarks. Arr. by date of sickness. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 72 pp. 14½ x 13 x ½.

165. SUBSIDY, 1934. 1 folder.
Applications to state department of health for reimbursement for tuberculosis patients placed in hospitals and paid for by board of health: Name of hospital, amount of subsidy requested; name, place of settlement of patient; date of admission, discharge, application. Includes acknowledgments of applications: Name of hospital, patient; grant of subsidy, date of acknowledgment of application, signature of state commissioner of public health. Arr. by date of application. No index. Applications typed on ptd. form; acknowledgments typed under ptd. head. 8½ x 11½ x ¼.

Financial Records

166. CASH BOOK OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES, 1937--. 2 vols. (dated).
Receipts of license and inspection fees: Name of payer; amount, source, date of receipt. Expenditures for salaries, general expenses, treatment and prevention of communicable diseases: Name of payee; description, date of services rendered; amount, date of payment. Arr. alph. by name of payer or payee. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 7½ x 4½ x ½.

167. (RECORD OF BILLS PAID), 1935--. 3 folders (dated).
Name, address of creditor; name of debtor; description, quantity, amount of purchase; date of bill. Also contains: Clean Up Days (Record of Pay Roll), entry 169. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 8½ x 11½ x ¼.

168. (Record of Town Accounts with) NORFOLK COUNTY HOSPITAL, 1925-32. 1 folder.
Names of Holbrook patients sent to hospital; date of admission, discharge, account; signature of hospital bookkeeper. Includes correspondence between

county hospital and town regarding patients. Arr. by date of account or letter. No index. Typed under ptd. head. 8½ x 11½ x ¼.

169. CLEAN UP DAYS (Record of Pay Roll), 1933-34. 1 folder. 1935-- in (Record of Bills Paid), entry 167.
Name of department, worker; number of hours worked, rate per hour, total amount due; number of pay roll sheet, item on pay roll; date of pay roll, signature of approving official. Arr. by date of pay roll. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 8½ x 11½ x ½.

Licenses and Permits
(See also entry 24)

170. (RECORD OF MILK PASTEURIZATION LICENSES), 1931--. 3 folders. Subtitled by names of licenses.
Name of licensor; name, address of licensee; purpose, term, number, date of license; citation of law, signatures of board members. Arr. by date of license. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 8½ x 11½ x ¼.

171. (RECORD OF LICENSES TO SELL MILK AND CREAM), 1934--. 1 vol.
Name of licensee, place of business; number of vehicles, drivers employed; number, date of license; date of expiration. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 60 pp. 8½ x 13 x ¼.

172. (RECORD OF DAIRY PERMITS), 1935--. 2 vols. (dated).
Name of dairy owner; location, number of dairy; number of cows; number of cans of milk produced, bought, sold; statement whether dairy sells milk, cream at wholesale or retail; number, date of permit. Arr. by permit no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 6½ x 12 x ½.

173. (Record of Swine, Piggery, and Garbage) LICENSE, 1937--. 2 vols. (dated).
Name, address of licensee; number of pigs owned; number, kind, date of license; date of expiration. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 60 pp. 5½ x 14 x ¼.

174. (RECORD OF BEAUTY PARLOR LICENSES), 1935--. 1 vol.
Name, address of licensee; nature of business; number, date of license; date of expiration. Arr. by date of license. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 6½ x 14 x ¼.

175. (RECORD OF LICENSES FOR KEEPING METHYL ALCOHOL), 1936--. 2 vols. (dated).
Name of licensee; nature, place of business; number, date of license; date of expiration. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 25 pp. 8½ x 14 x ¼.

176. (Record of) LICENSE (Granted for) BOARDING CHILDREN - ADULTS, 1931-34. 1 folder. System discont. 1934.
Name, address of licensee; number of children allowed, citation of law; number, description, date of license; date of expiration. Arr. by date of license. No index. Typed on ptd. form. 8½ x 11½ x ¼.

177. (STUBS OF BURIAL PERMITS), 1938--. 1 bdl.
Name of town, cemetery, deceased, person issuing permit; certification of disposal of body; number, date of permit; date of interment or cremation, signature of superintendent of cemetery or crematory. Includes plan of cemetery lot. Arr. by permit no. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 4 x 5½ x ¼.

Miscellaneous

178. (BIDS AND CONTRACTS FOR GARBAGE COLLECTIONS), 1938--. 1 bdl. Prior records destroyed.
Contains copies of:
i. Bids: Name of town, department; description of territory to be covered; directions for collecting, disposing of garbage; type of vehicle required, term of contract, time of payment to collector, provision for filing of bond, date of bid.
ii. Contracts: Name, address of collector; amount of salary, date of acceptance, signature of collector.
Arr. by date of acceptance. No index. Hdw. or typed. 4 x 9 x ¼.

179. CORRESPONDENCE OF BOARD OF HEALTH, 1931--. 6 folders, 1 file box (6 folders, 1931-37, dated; 1 file box, 1938--, unlabeled). Prior records destroyed.
Correspondence with towns, county, state, firms, and doctors relative to health and sanitation. Includes miscellaneous bills received. Also contains: (Record of Appointment of) Inspector of Slaughtering, 1935--, entry 180.
Arr. by date of receipt of communication. No index. Folders, 8½ x 11½ x ¼; file box, 12 x 11 x 3.

180. (Record of Appointment of) INSPECTOR OF SLAUGHTERING, 1930-34. 1 folder. 1935-- in Correspondence of Board of Health, entry 179.
Name of appointee; name, address of department approving appointment, term of office, citation of law; date of appointment, approval by state commissioner of public health. Arr. by date of approval. No index. Typed under ptd. head. 8½ x 11½ x ¼.

181. CERTIFICATE OF RABIES VACCINATION, 1937--. 1 bdl. System estab. 1937.
Name, address of dog owner; description, license, tag number of dog; method of vaccination, date of certificate, signature of veterinarian. Arr. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 2½ x 5½ x ⅛.

182. RECORD OF BIRTHS - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1934--. 1 vol. System estab. 1934.
Name, sex, birthplace of child; names, birthplaces of parents; occupation of father, name of doctor; number, date of birth; date of notice. Arr. by number and date of birth. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 151 pp. 14 x 14½ x 1½.

XVI. INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS[1]

In 1892 the General Court enacted a measure requiring the selectmen of towns to appoint each April one or more persons to act as inspectors of provisions and of animals intended for slaughter or for milk production.[2] In accordance with this act Holbrook's selectmen appointed such an officer the following year.[3] The last appointment of this animal inspector was made in 1901.[4]

The next year two cattle commissioners were appointed to perform the functions previously assigned to the inspector.[5] The appointment of the two commissioners is shown for a number of years following.[6] In 1920 the office was called animal inspector and one person was appointed by the selectmen.[7] This appointment has been made annually to the present time.[8] Although from 1930 to 1934 inclusive the officer has been termed inspector of slaughtering[9] and from 1936 to date inspector of animals and slaughtering.[10] This change in title was made in accordance with statutory regulation, although the town had no slaughterhouses within its limits.[11] No appointment of the animal inspector as inspector of slaughtering is found for the years 1935 and 1937.[12]

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Acts, 1892, chap. 195
3. Town Records, IV, p. 40
4. Ibid., V, p. 61; Annual Reports, 1900, p. 3
5. Town Records, V, p. 86
6. Ibid., pp. 107, 126
7. Annual Reports, 1920, p. 5
8. Ibid., 1939, p. 4
9. In correspondence seeking approval of his appointment from the state commissioner of public health. See entry 180.
10. Board of Health, RECORDS (Minutes of Meetings), 1934 to 1940, 1 vol. See entry 159.
11. General Laws, 1932, chap. 94, secs. 121-129 incl.
12. Board of Health, RECORDS, op. cit.

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the residence of Ernest C. Poole (inspector), 276 Plymouth Street.

183. (ANNUAL REPORT OF ANIMAL INSPECTOR), 1928-35, 1937--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report showing activities of inspector, total number and kinds of livestock kept in town; number of dogs infected with rabies, quarantined.

184. (COPY OF INSPECTION REPORT SENT TO STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE), 1938--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed.
Name, address of animal owner; number, grade, breed, health, condition of cattle inspected; condition of premises, date of inspection, signature of inspector. Includes statement of tuberculin tests under State supervision and granting of certificate of registration to farm by state department of agriculture. Arr. by date of inspection. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 8 x 4¼ x ½.

185. (STUBS OF ANIMAL QUARANTINE ORDERS), 1933--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed.
Name, address of animal owner; number, kinds, suspected diseases of animals quarantined; date of quarantine. Arr. by date of quarantine. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 50 pp. 3¼ x 11 x ¼.

XVII. WATER COMMISSIONERS[1]

The question of a water supply for fire protection and domestic use first arose in an adjourned session of the first annual town meeting in 1872. The warrant for that meeting called for discussion on the subject of "one or more reservoirs . . . approved by the enjine-men."[2] Not until April 7th, 1884, however, was a committee of five appointed to take up the question and report its findings to a special town meeting to be held three months later.[3]

The legislature in 1885 enacted a measure "To supply the towns of Braintree, Randolph and Holbrook with water", and provided that each of the towns which accepted the act elect by ballot three persons, one for one year, one for two, and one for three years and their successors triennially thereafter, to serve as water commissioners.[4] These commissioners were empowered to exercise all of the authority given by the act to each

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 12 et seq.
3. Ibid., II, p. 165
4. Acts, 1885, chap. 217, sec. 11

town when acting separately.[1] In addition, authority granted conjointly to the towns uniting for the purpose of the act was, in the "taking of waters, lands, rights of way and easements" vested in the several boards of water commissioners of the towns; but "when such joint water works are completed, all authority conjointly granted to said towns" was to be vested in a joint water board consisting of the chairmen of each board of water commissioners.[2] Holbrook accepted the act in 1886; on February 19th of that year the moderator named a committee of five to select three persons to act with Randolph in protecting the towns against attempts to acquire private rights in Great Pond, source of the water supply.[3] On October 8th the commissioners were authorized to make all proper contracts for the introduction, supply and use of water from Great Pond and to raise $100,000 for the construction of the system. This loan was officially termed 'The Holbrook Water Loan'.[4]

The laying of pipes for the water system was begun on September 2, 1887. Construction was also begun of two standpipes, one in Holbrook and one in Randolph, a pumping station and other necessary works.[5] The Holbrook standpipe was completed on September 1, 1887, and the one in Randolph three months later.[6] The pumping apparatus was not completed by this time, however, so the commissioners used the fire engines of the towns to fill the standpipes to prevent their being blown down.[7]

A number of legal suits arose out of the use of the pond for the water supply; Braintree had not accepted a partnership in it, and certain mill owners entered claims against Holbrook and Randolph in the courts. In January 1889, the commissioners were given authority to defend the towns against these suits.[8] Three years later, in 1892, the commissioners were empowered to appear before the legislature to ask permission to make an additional loan of $35,000 for the water system.[9] The same year their appointment to act as agents of the town in the litigation was again made.[10]

In 1887, the joint board first employed an engineer.[11] His report was made the following year and annually ever since.[12] A joint superintendent of the waterworks was appointed by the joint board of both towns in April

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1. Acts, 1885, chap. 217, sec. 11
2. Ibid., sec. 12
3. Town Records, III, p. 25
4. Acts, 1885, chap. 217, sec. 5
5. Annual Reports, 1888, p. 92
6. Ibid., pp. 78, 79
7. Idem
8. Town Records, III, p. 101
9. Ibid., p. 197
10. Idem
11. Ibid., p. 57
12. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 128; Town Records, III, p. 62

1887, his first report also being filed in 1888.[1] In 1899 the records show that the joint superintendent was also clerk of the joint water board.[2] The joint superintendent of the entire system still remains.[3] Since 1925, however, the Holbrook water commissioners have also appointed a superintendent of the Holbrook water department.[4]

Although they doubtless had a clerk before that date, there is a definite record since 1911 that the water commissioners of Holbrook have appointed annually a clerk from among their number.[5] A collector of water rates is shown in the records in 1932; he is also one of the water commissioners, usually the clerk, and is appointed annually by the board.[6] In 1939 an item is entered for the payment to him of $190 for salary for the year.[7] Both the office of clerk of the water commissioners and of the collector of water rates is now held by one of the commissioners.[8]

At a special meeting on October 28, 1935, the water commissioners were successful in obtaining appropriations of $20,000 from each of the two towns and later a federal appropriation of $29,250. The money was used to make extensive improvements in the water system.[9] In their 54th annual report in 1939 the commissioners reported a revenue account for that year of $26,000.[10]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the water department office, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street.

Reports

186. (ANNUAL REPORT OF WATER COMMISSIONERS), 1887--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.

Narrative report of the general work done by the department. 1887 includes report of organization. Also contains financial report showing list of fixed, collected and uncollected bills; abatements; classification, amount of each bill, 1922--.

i. Cash received and total receipts on hand with source and amount of each payment, 1894-1922.

ii. Construction costs for building materials and repairs showing names, 1888-1902.

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1. Annual Reports, 1889, pp. 65-72 incl.
2. Ibid., 1899, p. 112
3. Statement of Mr. Francis McLaughlin, joint superintendent of the waterworks and superintendent of the Holbrook water department.
4. Ibid., 1925, p. 89; 1939, p. 118
5. Ibid., 1911, p. 132; 1939, p. 118
6. Town Records, VI, p. 132
7. Ibid., VII, p. 17
8. Statement of Mr. Francis McLaughlin cited above
9. Annual Reports, 1935, p. 90
10. Ibid., 1939, pp. 118-127 incl.

iii. Deposits in banks, 1898-1922: Name of bank; amount, date of deposit.
iv. Joint accounts with Randolph, showing amounts and causes of expenditures, 1922--.
v. List of bills receivable, showing purpose and amount, 1888-1907.
vi. Maintenance account showing total cost of supplies and salaries, 1922--.
vii. Miscellaneous accounts showing expenditures for automobile repairs, supplies, office stationery, total amount of interest due on water bills, 1922--.
viii. Revenue account showing total amounts for commitments, maintenance, interest, and meters, 1922--.
ix. Sinking fund, 1898-1922: Amount, date of each note.
x. Total amount due department by month for meters, 1922--.
xi. Trial balance table for department, 1922--; cash on hand first of year; amount, source of revenue; total revenue.
xii. Water rates for stables and method of computing same, 1922--.
xiii. Water rates for homes and scale for various types of service, 1929--.

187. (ANNUAL REPORT OF WATER SUPERINTENDENT), 1888-1922. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report showing general duties of superintendent, inventory of department supplies and equipment, number of feet of pipe laid, rate of water tax, and rules for use of water. Includes treasurer's account of departmental receipts and expenditures.

188. (ANNUAL REPORT OF WATER DEPARTMENT ENGINEER), 1888--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report on general duties of engineer, cost of repairs to pump house; size, height and location of standpipes. 1888-1920 includes table of construction, showing kind and cost of material used. 1929-- includes pumping records and water rules and regulations, showing number of gallons of water pumped daily, monthly, with averages; total number of tons of coal, amount of electricity used; highest daily and weekly pumping record with total number of gallons.

Financial Records
(See also entries 186-i, 194, 197)

189. CASH (Receipts and Expenditures), 1891--. 3 vols. (dated).
Receipts: Name of payer; amount, date of payment; total amount paid, balance due; page number of account. Expenditures: Name of payee; amount, date of payment; total daily expenditures, balance unpaid. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. to 1924, hdw. on ptd. form thereafter. 355 pp. 10 x 8 x 1½.
1 vol., 1916-24, bsmt. va., T. H.; 2 vols., 1891-1915, 1925--, water dept. off.

190. (RECORD OF PAYMENTS RECEIVED), 1938--. 4 bdls. Prior records destroyed.
Name, address, service number of consumer; amount, date of payment; signature of collector of water rates. Arr. by service no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 3 x 2½ x 1. Safe.

191. (RECORD OF MONTHLY EXPENDITURES), 1913-16. 1 vol. System discont. 1916.
Name of payee; amount, purpose, date of bill; monthly total of bills. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 210 pp. 10½ x 8 x ½. Cabinet.

192. ORDERS - WATER DEPARTMENT - TOWN OF HOLBROOK, 1913-16. 1 vol. System discont. 1916.
Record of orders on treasurer for payment of department expenses: Name of payee; amount, purpose, number, date of order. Arr. by number and date of order. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 13 x 13 x 4½.

Service Records

193. HOLBROOK WATER WORKS - OWNER'S APPLICATION, 1887--. 1 vol., 15 bdls. in 1 file box (1 vol., 1887-1922, unlabeled; 15 bdls., 1923--, dated). Title varies slightly.
Name of property owner, occupant; location of property, type of service desired; agreement to regulations, payment of bills; number, date of application; signature of owner. 1923-- includes plan of service lay-out. Arr. by application no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. Vol., 300 pp. 15½ x 10½ x 2; file box, 18 x 25 x 15. 1 vol., 1887-1922, cabinet, water dept. off.; 1 file box, 1923--, bsmt. va., T. H.

194. WATER REGISTER - HOLBROOK, 1890--. 5 vols. (dated). System estab. 1890.
Record of service installations and payments: Name, address, service number of property owner; number of families, outlets; amount, date of bill; date of payment. Arr. by register no. and alph. by name of consumer. No index. Hdw. and stamped on ptd. form. 254 pp. 13½ x 17 x 1½ to 400 pp. 17 x 17 x 4. 2 vols., 1890-95, 1901-16, va., bsmt., T. H.; 2 vols., 1896-1900, 1917-19, cabinet; 1 vol., 1920--, safe, water dept. off.

195. (SERVICE FILE), 1925--. 1 file box. System estab. 1925.
Superintendent's field record of installations and service: Name, address, service number of property owner; name of owner at time of service installation, length of pipe used, date of installation. Includes plan of pipe lines. Arr. by service no. For index, see entry 196. Hdw. on ptd. form. 18 x 10 x 7. Water dept. truck.

196. (INDEX TO SERVICE FILE OF SUPERINTENDENT), 1925--. 3 vols. (dated).
Name, address, service number of property owner. Arr. alph. by name of property owner. Typed. 300 pp. 8½ x 11 x 1. Water dept. truck.

197. SERVICE PIPE RECORDS - HOLBROOK WATERWORKS, 1887-1914. 1 vol. Record of installation: Name, address, service number of property owner; size, length, price of pipe; number of yards of ledge removed, total footage, price per foot charged applicant; number, price of fixtures; total charge to applicant; meter, application number; date of installation, payment. Arr. by application number and date of installation. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp; 8½ x 15 x 1½. Cabinet.

Miscellaneous

198. HOLBROOK - RANDOLPH - BRAINTREE WATERWORKS, 1888-92. 1 bdl. Miscellaneous records pertaining to construction of joint waterworks:

i. Action in contract: Name of plaintiff, defendant, court; plaintiff's complaint, estimation of damages, date of writ, signature of plaintiff's attorney.

ii. Chart of estimated cost of waterworks, 1888: Name, address of estimator; amount, size, price per foot, total cost of pipe needed; number, price, total cost of fittings, castings; cost of standpipe, foundation; allowance for contingencies, total estimated cost.

iii. Declaration of plaintiff's account: Name of plaintiff, defendant; description, number, price of each item; total amount of account, date of declaration.

iv. Land damage awards, 1892: Names of landowners; amounts allowed on each claim by auditor, jury; total amount allowed, date of award, signature of lawyer for landowners.

v. Mechanic's lien (copy), 1888: Name of state, county, town, judge, sheriff, court plaintiff; name, firm name, address of defendant; description, itemized statement of services rendered; description of place of work; book and page reference to record of plan in county registry of deeds; place, date, book reference, time of filing of lien; amount of damage asked; place, date of hearing; signature of clerk of court, deputy sheriff.

vi. Order of taking of water and land by joint water board, 1888: Names of joint water boards, citation of law; number of acres, location, boundaries of land taken; reason for water, land taking; order to prepare, sign, file record of taking; place, time of filing; date of plan.

vii. Order on petition for land damage, 1889: Name of state, county, court, defendant; place, time of hearing; direction for giving notice; date of order, hearing; signature of court clerk. Includes process officer's return; place, manner, date of service; attestation of deputy sheriff.

viii. Petition for land damage award, 1889: Name of state, county, court, plaintiff, defendant; statement of ownership, boundaries; citation of law regarding land and water takings; estimate of damages, request for assessment of damages by jury, date of petition, signature of plaintiff's attorney.

Arr. by date of document. No index. Typed. 9 x 4 x 4. Va.

XVIII. SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS[1]

At an adjourned session of the first town meeting in 1872 the selectmen were empowered to appoint three men to take charge of the highways. The appointments were made; the men elected were known as surveyors of highways.[2] The following year, on April 7, it was voted to accept an act of the legislature calling for the appointment of road commissioners,[3] and the moderator was instructed to appoint a committee of five to nominate three commissioners.[4] Three persons were elected by ballot under this act until 1876.[5]

A temporary change in the office was made in 1876 when it was voted to abolish the office of road commissioner and divide the town into six highway districts, with one surveyor in charge of each district. A special committee on highways was appointed to make nominations.[6] The following year, however, the highway surveyors were dropped; the town voted again to accept the provisions of chapter 158 of the Acts of 1871, and three road commissioners were elected by ballot.[7]

In 1885 the matter of care of the roads was placed in the hands of the selectmen and the office of road commissioners was again abolished. This vote was taken on April 6; almost immediately afterward the vote was rescinded.[8] Another vote was taken on April 2, 1888 and the care of the roads returned to the jurisdiction of the selectmen. They appointed a superintendent of streets for a one-year term on April 25, 1890.[9]

The appointment of the superintendent appears in the town records for most of the next few years.[10] In 1899 the superintendent was ordered to give delinquent taxpayers an opportunity to work on the streets to pay their taxes.[11] In 1904 he was instructed to remove ashes from certain buildings in the town and use them on the sidewalks.[12] In 1908 there is record of two men being appointed to the office,[13] and in 1918 the pay for

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, pp. 16 to 27 passim
3. Acts, 1871, chap. 158
4. Ibid., p. 60
5. Ibid., pp. 60 to 129 passim
6. Ibid., pp. 129-131 passim
7. Ibid., p. 146
8. Ibid., III, pp. 7-9 incl.
9. Ibid., pp. 73, 142
10. Town Records, p. 187 to VI, p. 179 passim
11. Ibid., V, p. 9
12. Ibid., p. 125
13. Ibid., VI, p. 8

the job was fixed at $3.50 per day.[1] In 1923 the reports of the office are signed by a superintendent and an assistant superintendent.[2]

The superintendent makes formal annual reports on his work to the board of selectmen. His duties include supervision over the streets, sidewalks, drains, and catch basins, and their upkeep.[3]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the town office vault, first floor, Town Hall, North Franklin Street. In addition to the following records, see entries 4-6 for highway records kept by selectmen, 1793--.

199. (ANNUAL REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS), 1874-88, 1922--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Contains report of road commissioners 1874-88, superintendent 1922--:
i. Appropriations and expenditures, 1874-88: Total amount of appropriation; amount of expenditures for labor, material, supplies.
ii. Narrative report of work done, including general repair work and oiling of streets.
iii. Recapitulation of construction, 1875-88: Name of street, cost of each unit.
iv. Record of gravel used, 1874-86: Name of person or firm supplying gravel, number of loads used, cost of gravel.
v. Repairs on bridges, 1874-88: Location of bridge; type, cost of repairs; cost of labor.
vi. Snow removal, 1874: Names of laborers, amount paid each, total amount paid.

200. POLE LOCATIONS AND ALTERATION PLANS, July 29, 1924. 3 plans.
Plan of pole locations of Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway Company on Franklin Street. H. Dunford. Publisher, place of publication unknown. Blueprint. 1":40'. 8½ x 12½ x 1/16.

201. (POLE LOCATIONS ON PLYMOUTH STREET), Oct. 17, 1924. 3 plans.
Plan of electric and telephone pole locations on Plymouth Street from Weymouth Street. H. L. Jones, Dorchester, District Plant Engineering Co. Blueprint. 1":40'. 18½ x 30 x 1/16.

202. MAP OF (Pole Locations on) BELCHER STREET - HOLBROOK, Oct. 15, 1924. 2 maps.
Map of pole locations on Belcher Street between Plymouth and Franklin Streets. H. L. Jones. Publisher, place of publication unknown. Blueprint. 1":40'. 18½ x 30 x 1/10.

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1. Town Records, VII, p. 36
2. Annual Reports, 1923, p. 56
3. Ibid., 1939, p. 247

203. (MAP OF RANDOLPH AND HOLBROOK POWER AND ELECTRIC COMPANY), Oct. 30, 1931. 3 maps.
Map showing locations of lines, poles, and other equipment. T. H. Cahill. Dorchester, District Plant Engineering Co. Blueprint. No scale. 22 x 34 x 1/8.

XIX. PARK COMMISSIONER[1]

A committee of five was nominated at the annual meeting on March 12, 1894, to investigate the possibility of obtaining, either by purchase or as a gift, "a tract of land for a reservation, near the business center of the town . . . to be in the future developed into a park or parks with a playstead where the children may engage in such sports as are now prohibited upon our streets and squares." The report of the committee was made at the succeeding annual meeting.[2] An addition to the park area came through the instrumentality of the committee for industrial development which reported in 1906 that a factory site had been deeded to the town for park use.[3] In 1907 an expense item is reported for grading and surveying the park.[4]

Another effort to secure park space was made in 1910, when five persons were appointed to look into the matter, and to secure options on land should they deem it advisable.[5] This committee reported a month later, and read a communication from one of the citizens of the town making a gift of $2,500 toward the purchase and improvement of the land.[6]

The formal appearance of park commissioners in the town came in 1914, after the town meeting on April 26, 1913, had voted that, beginning in 1914, Holbrook would accept the provisions of a state statute providing for their election.[7] Three commissioners were elected.[8]

In securing the park the town had voted to accept two playground sites rather than the one at first considered; the second being situated in the Brookville section.[9] In 1915 it was voted to install electric lights at both parks.[10] The commission voted in 1917 to appropriate a

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, IV, pp. 65, 93
3. Annual Reports, 1906, p. 106
4. Ibid., 1907, p. 34
5. Town Records, VI, pp. 39-43 incl.
6. Ibid., p. 43
7. Revised Laws, 1902, chap. 28, sec. 1
8. Town Records, VI, pp. 108, 111, 129
9. Ibid., p. 42
10. Ibid., p. 158

part of the playground funds to suppress indecent language at the parks,[1] and in March 1922 voted $1,500 to install sidewalks in them.[2] The commissioners took a step to safeguard the parks in 1927, when they secured authority to prevent any part of the park grounds being used for building purposes.[3]

While no report of the commissioners appears in most of the recent volumes of the annual reports, appropriations for the playgrounds are frequently shown.[4]

204. (ANNUAL REPORT OF PARK COMMISSIONERS), 1914-24, 1928-32. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of the activities, accomplishments, needs of the department. Also contains receipts and expenditures, 1914-17: Name of payer or payee; amount, source or purpose of receipt or expenditure.

XX. MOTH SUPERINTENDENT[5]

As early as 1905 the office of moth superintendent appears in the annual reports, filled that year by the tree warden.[6] One man was elected to both offices until 1908, when the moth work was made formally a duty of the tree warden.[7]

The office of superintendent appears again in 1920, when the tree warden signed himself "tree warden and moth superintendent."[8] The former officer was elected in this manner until 1925, when the moth superintendent is shown as a separate office.[9] Since that time, however, the same individual has usually filled both offices.[10]

205. (ANNUAL REPORT OF MOTH SUPERINTENDENT), 1925--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2. 1905-24 in (Annual Report of Tree Warden), entry 207.
Narrative report showing the general work done by the department, amount of appropriations asked, and recommendations. Also contains property list, 1926--: List of equipment, number of pieces of each kind on hand.

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1. Town Records, VII, p. 10
2. Ibid., p. 105
3. Ibid., VIII, p. 28
4. Annual Reports, 1937, p. 216; 1938, p. 221; 1939, p. 260
5. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
6. Annual Reports, 1905, p. 116
7. Ibid., 1908, p. 73
8. Ibid., 1920, p. 62
9. Ibid., 1925, p. 69 et seq.
10. Ibid., 1935, pp. 85, 86; 1939, pp. 112-114

206. PERSONNEL AND WORK RECORD BOOK), 1930--. 1 vol. System estab. 1930.
Names of employees, number of hours worked, rate per hour, total weekly wages, description of work; type, quality, quantity of material used, inspected; date of record. Arr. by date of record. No index. Hdw. 260 pp. 14 x 8¼ x 1. Residence of Herbert W. Beals (inspector), 115 Belcher St.

XXI. TREE WARDEN[1]

At the annual meeting in 1900 a tree warden was elected by ballot to serve for one year.[2] This method of election is still used.[3] In 1905 the office of moth superintendent was created and the duties given to the tree warden.[4] The tree warden served as moth superintendent until 1908, when the two offices were officially combined.[5]

The tree warden appears again in the reports as "tree warden and moth superintendent" in 1920,[6] and was mentioned in this manner through 1924.[7] In 1925 the offices were again separated, but in some years since that time the same man has filled both posts.[8] The warden is an elective office, and the moth superintendent appointive, by the selectmen.[9] Yearly reports are made to the selectmen.[10]

207. (ANNUAL REPORT OF TREE WARDEN), 1905--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report showing the general work done by the department, amount of appropriations asked, and recommendations. Also contains:
i. (Annual Report of Moth Superintendent), 1905-24, entry 205.
ii. Property list, 1917--: List of equipment, number of pieces of each kind on hand.

208. (PERSONNEL AND WORK RECORDS BOOK), 1930--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed.
Names of employees, number of hours worked, rate per hour, total weekly wages, description of work; type, quality, quantity of material used, inspected; date of record. Arr. by date of record. No index. Hdw.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, V, p. 32
3. Annual Reports, 1939; p. 266
4. Ibid., 1905, p. 116
5. Ibid., 1908, p. 73
6. Ibid., 1920, p. 62
7. Town Records, VII, p. 148
8. Annual Reports, 1925, p. 69; 1935, pp. 85, 86; 1939, pp. 112, 113
9. Town Records, VII, p. 196 to VIII, p. 276
10. Annual Reports, 1939, pp. 112-114 incl.

260 pp. 14 x 8½ x 1. Residence of Herbert W. Beals (tree warden), 115 Belcher St.

XXII. FOREST WARDEN[1]

In 1900 the position of forest warden, sometimes referred to as forest fire warden, was created;[2] three wardens, who were also fire engineers, were appointed by the selectmen in 1901.[3] A single forest warden has been appointed annually from 1908 to 1926.[4] Since 1926 the chief of the fire department has also been appointed forest warden.[5]

209. (ANNUAL REPORT OF FOREST WARDEN), 1908-26. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.

Narrative report showing work done, amount of appropriation requested, number of fire permits issued. Occasionally includes number of forest fires extinguished. Also contains:

i. Inventory of equipment, 1917-22: Description, quantity of equipment.

ii. Law citation, 1916-17: Quotation of state laws relating to the building of fires in the open, issuance of permits.

iii. Receipts and expenditures, 1910-17: Amount of appropriation; amount, purpose of expenditure; balance.

XXIII. CONSTABLES[1]

Four constables were elected at the first town meeting to serve one year.[6] A similar number were elected for the next two years,[7] and again in 1875, when it had first been voted to elect only three, but the vote was later amended to restore the original number of four.[8] The number of constables elected varied from three to eight up to 1890,[9] after which seven were elected annually to the present time.[10]

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, V, p. 36
3. Ibid., p. 61
4. Annual Reports, 1908, p. 61, to 1926, p. 81
5. Ibid., 1926, p. 81; 1935, pp. 4, 5; 1937, pp. 4, 5; 1939, p. 5
6. Town Records, I, p. 15
7. Ibid., pp. 58, 85
8. Ibid., p. 103
9. Ibid., II, p. 7 to III, p. 139 passim
10. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 4

The constables have at various times performed numerous other functions. In the bylaws adopted in 1872 they were given the power to enforce the laws against truancy;[1] in 1884 the six constables also acted as field drivers; they performed the latter duties again in 1890, 1891, and in 1893.[2] Since 1935 one of the constables has been water commissioner and chief of the fire department.[3]

The constables keep no permanent records.

XXIV. POLICE DEPARTMENT[4]

The bylaws adopted by the town at an adjourned session of the first town meeting gave certain law-enforcement powers to the selectmen and constables. Among these were the authority to punish violators of the bylaws, to presecute cases of violations in the courts, and to enforce the truancy laws.[5]

In 1873 the selectmen appointed a special police officer.[6] Authority to make this appointment was also given to the selectmen in 1878, when they were authorized to "appoint one or more men as night watchmen or police."[7] The town again discussed the matter of night watchmen in 1882, and instructed the selectmen that "it is the sense of this meeting that police officers are as necessary at night as on the Sabbath."[8] The next year the selectmen were empowered to "employ night police from 8 to 11 o'clock",[9] and in 1893 were instructed to "put on a night watchman for each month from now until the annual town meeting and the preference shall be given to a citizen of the town out of work."[10]

In the annual report for 1903 a picture of Walter O. Crooker appears with the title of chief of police.[11] The name of Crooker had appeared before this time as a constable receiving compensation for night police duty. In the annual report for 1932 an obituary notice stated that Crooker had served on the police force for 44 years.[12]

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1. Town Records, I, p. 20 et seq.
2. Ibid., II, p. 161; III, pp. 139, 176; IV, p. 36
3. Annual Reports, 1935, pp. 3, 4; 1939, pp. 4, 5
4. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
5. Town Records, I, p. 20 et seq.
6. Ibid., p. 63
7. Ibid., II, p. 3
8. Ibid., p. 110
9. Ibid., p. 135
10. Ibid., IV, p. 54
11. Annual Reports, 1903, pp. 16, 17
12. Ibid., 1932, frontispiece

The first chief of police appears in the annual reports to have served an unbroken term to 1928.[1] In that year there was a change and a younger man held the office for a year.[2] The next year, however, the original incumbent was reseated and served until his death.[3]

The Holbrook police department went under civil service regulations in 1934, when the office of chief of police was made a civil service appointment.[4]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the chief's office, first floor, Fire Station, North Franklin Street. In addition to the following records, see entry 2-xiv j for roster of department published by selectmen 1881-1922.

Reports

210. (ANNUAL REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT), 1907-9, 1911-12, 1920-23, 1925--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of the work done by the department showing total number of arrests, convictions, cases discharged. 1911-12, 1920-23, 1925-- includes number of arrests by cause, number of motor vehicle accidents reported and investigated, licenses suspended; number of accidents causing personal injuries, property damage, and fatalities; number of revolver permits issued.

Arrest Records
(See also entry 210)

211. (Record Book of) ARRESTS, 1933--. 1 vol. System estab. 1933.
Name of person arrested; time, place, date of arrest. Arr. by date of arrest. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. $9\frac{1}{2}$ x $8\frac{1}{4}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Desk.

212. PROBATION (Card) RECORDS (of Persons Arrested), 1933--. 1 file box. System estab. 1933.
Name, address, occupation, marital status, physical description of person arrested; names of parents, complainant, employer, wife and family if any; nature of offense, disposition of case, date of arrest. Arr. alph. by name of person arrested. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 6 x 7 x 25. Cabinet.

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1. Annual Reports, 1927, p. 71; 1928, p. 69 passim
2. Ibid., 1928, p. 69
3. Ibid., 1929, p. 71; 1932, frontispiece
4. Town Records, VIII, p. 186; General Laws, 1932, ch. 31, sec. 48

Motor Vehicle Records

213. REPORTS OF MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT, 1933--. 1 file box.
Copies of police reports made to state registry of motor vehicles: Name, address, age, sex, license number, driving experience of operator; names, addresses of car owners; names, addresses, ages, sex of passengers, pedestrians involved; registration number, make, type, operating condition of vehicle; description, location, cause, date of accident; atmospheric, light, roadway conditions; number, date of report; signatures of witnesses, officer; remarks by officer. Arr. by report no. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 12 x 14 x 25. Cabinet.

For annual published report of accidents, 1911-- irregularly, see entry 210.

214. NOTICE OF INTENDED SALE OR TRANSFER OF MOTOR VEHICLE, 1933--. 1 file box.
Name, address of former owner, present owner, buyer; make, type, model, year of motor vehicle; registration, motor, maker's number; statement of law, date of notice. Also contains permit to sell, exchange or transfer ownership of a motor vehicle: Name of town, State; name, address of owner; date of permit; signature, title of official granting permit. Arr. alph. by name of buyer. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 6 x 7 x 25. Cabinet.

Miscellaneous

215. (COPIES OF PERMITS TO CARRY PISTOL OR REVOLVER), 1930--. 2 vols. (dated). Prior records destroyed.
Name of town, state; name, address, sex, physical description of licensee; place, date of birth; number, purpose, term, date of license; signature of licensee, chief of police. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 50 pp. 4 x 6½ x 1. 1 vol., 1930-33, va., town off., first fl., T. H.; 2 vols., 1934--, chief's off.

For annual published report of permits issued 1911-- irregularly, see entry 210.

216. (Record of Police) CALLS (Answered), 1933--. 1 vol. System estab. 1933.
Name, address of person making call; time, date, nature, disposition of call. Arr. by date of call. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 9½ x 8½ x ½. Desk.

XXV. FIRE DEPARTMENT[1]

When asked "to take any action deemed expedient in relation to enjines and enjine-men" in the warrant for the first town meeting in 1872, the town

1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.

voted "to refer the article . . . to the selectmen."[1] Later the same year the selectmen appointed two "enjine-men" and continued these appointments through 1877.[2] The number was increased to three in 1878[3] and to five in 1881;[4] in 1882 and thereafter it was again three.[5]

The fire engineers had charge at first of the two engines and engine-houses that had been taken by the town in its settlement of corporate property with Randolph.[6] At the first meeting it had been asked that a reservoir be authorized, to be approved by the enginemen.[7] The construction of the reservoir, however, was left to the selectmen. A hook-and-ladder truck was purchased in 1873,[8] and another piece of apparatus added in 1878, a new pumping wagon, together with 1,500 feet of steamer hose.[9]

For the first few years the reports of the engineers were made to the town by the selectmen; in 1879 the first report made by the engineers themselves is found.[10] In that year the town accepted the provisions of the state law calling for the setting up of a fire department,[11] and in 1881 it was voted to pay the firemen $5.00 a year, each 25 cents for each hour of actual service and 50 cents for false alarms.[12] That year it was also voted to have the engineers build fire reservoirs.[13]

The property of the fire department was placed in the hands of the selectmen in 1883 and they were made a committee to enlarge the Brookville fire house.[14] The next year the pay of the firemen was increased to $7.00 a year; two years later it was voted to place full control of the fire department property back in the hands of the three engineers.[15]

A "fire chief" appears in the records in 1893, when the chief of the fire engineers was thus referred to.[16] A year later, on March 5th, 1894, "the first three engineers" and the selectmen were given $950 with which

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1. Town Records, I, p. 19
2. Idem
3. Annual Reports, 1882, p. 75
4. Idem
5. Idem
6. Town Records, I, p. 42 et seq.; Annual Reports, 1872, p. 20
7. Town Records, I, p. 6 et seq.
8. Ibid., p. 62
9. Town Records, II, p. 11
10. Annual Reports, 1879, p. 10
11. Town Records, II, p. 26; Acts, 1839, chap. 138
12. Ibid., p. 76
13. Town Records, II, p. 71
14. Ibid., p. 135
15. Ibid., p. 164; III, p. 34
16. Annual Reports, 1893, p. 40

to improve and enlarge the fire alarm system.[1] Another such appropriation was made in 1897, when the engineers were voted $100 for a bell on the Brookville firehouse and $200 for the use of station 2.[2]

The chief of the fire department signed his own report in 1900.[3] In 1902 he reported the force as consisting of "five men and 28 on the manual force." The latter referred to the volunteers, still used in the town.[4]

The chief of the engineers was made a civil service employee in 1934, after the town had accepted section 48 of chapter 31 of the General Laws,[5] which provided that the state department of civil service and registration make regulations concerning the selection of persons to fill appointive positions in towns accepting this chapter. Previous to this time, however, a number of additional offices had been created in the fire department.

A superintendent of fire alarms was appointed by the selectmen in 1902;[6] in 1920 the board of engineers was authorized to employ a full-time driver for the fire truck at a salary of $1,800.[7]

The engineers reported in 1939 that a total of more than 1,000 hours of labor had been used in fighting fires during the year, that the department had responded to 81 calls, issued 580 permits, and had two combination trucks, 1 engine and 1 ladder truck.[8]

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the chief's office, first floor, Fire Station, North Franklin Street.

Minutes and Reports

217. RECORDS OF THE ENGINE COMPANY, 1872--. 16 vols.
Minutes of meetings: Election of officers, appointment of fireman, appropriations to aid injured members, plans for annual banquet; time, date of meeting. Arr. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 14 x 9 x ½.

218. (ANNUAL PUBLISHED REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT), 1879--.
In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report on work done by department showing number and result of fire calls made, number and kinds of fires. 1879-1922 includes inventory

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1. Town Records, IV, p. 63
2. Ibid., p. 141
3. Annual Reports, 1893, p. 40
4. Ibid., 1902, p. 53
5. Town Records, VII, p. 186
6. Annual Reports, 1902, p. 58
7. Town Records, VI, p. 78
8. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 110

of apparatus and equipment, list of equipment and apparatus needed, and amount recommended for purchases. 1884-1922 includes number and title of personnel, number of feet of hose in department; number, location, cause, amount of damage, date of town fires. 1886-1922 includes number of pieces of apparatus, cost and kinds of repairs to engine houses, total amount of appropriation asked. Also contains:

i. Record of appropriations and expenditures, 1894-1922: Total amount of department appropriation; kind, amount of each order drawn on treasurer.

ii. Statistical record of fires, 1923--: Number of feet of hose, gallons of water and chemical, labor hours used at each fire; number of fire permits issued; total valuation, loss, insurance on each building burned; total loss of personal property, total amount of personal and real property insurance paid.

219. (Copy of) ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF, 1928--. 1 file box. Total number of fire calls made, classification of fires, number of false alarms, number of feet of fire hose used, total hours of labor, number of fire permits issued. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 15 x 7 x 5½.

Fire and Equipment Records

220. FIRE RECORDS, 1897--. 2 vols.
Daybook: Names of firemen responding; number of feet of hose laid, gallons of water pumped; amount of damage; location, cause, time, date of fire. Includes insurance report. Arr. by date of fire. No index. Hdw. 250 pp. 15 x 9 x 1. Engine rm., first fl., Fire Station.

221. HOSE RECORDS, 1902--. 1 file box.
Fire hose purchases: Length, size, type of hose; date of test, acceptance or rejection. Arr. by date of purchase. No index. Hdw. or typed. 5½ x 17 x 15.

222. FIRE ALARM BOX RECORDS, 1908--. 1 file box.
Location, number, type of box; description, date of repairs; date of installation. Arr. by date of installation. No index. Hdw. 5½ x 7 x 15.

Permits

223. RECORD CARDS OF GASOLINE (and Oil Storage) PERMITS, 1925--. 1 file box.
Name, address of applicant; tank capacity; purpose, date of permit. Arr. by date of permit. No index. Typed. 5½ x 7 x 15.

224. (Permits for) POWER OIL BURNERS, 1931--. 1 file box.
System estab. 1931.
Name of owner; type, location of burner; tank capacity, date of permit. Arr. alph. by name of owner. No index. Typed. 5½ x 7 x 15.

Miscellaneous

225. LIST OF CALL MEN, 1921--. 1 file box.
Name, address, occupation, fire badge number of call man; equipment sizes; date of appointment, resignation. Arr. alph. by name of call man. No index. Typed. 5½ x 7 x 15.

XXVI. SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES[1]

The office of sealer of weights and measures appears in Holbrook since 1873, from which year one has been appointed by the selectmen to serve for a year.[2] In 1902 the sealer was also the measurer of wood and bark.[3] In 1917 a sum was appropriated by the town to "put the department of weights and measures in proper condition."[4] Occasional receipts and expenditures are noted in some years after this, some of the latter being for the salary of the appointee.[5]

226. (ANNUAL REPORT OF SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES), 1922--.
In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of examination, approval, or condemnation of measuring and weighing devices. 1922, 1924 includes statement of expenditures. 1922-23 includes summary of state laws governing weighing and measuring devices.

227. SEALER'S RECORD (of Scales and Measuring Devices Tested), 1920--. 3 vols.
Office record compiled annually from (Field Book), entry 228: Name of owner; number of scales, measuring devices tested, adjusted, sealed, condemned; amount of sealing fees, adjusting charges; total amount of fees, date of test. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 11½ x 22½ x ½. 1 vol., 1920-27, bsmt.; 2 vols., 1927--, safe, town off., first fl.; T. H.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 60; Annual Reports, 1939, p. 5
3. Town Records, V, p. 86
4. Ibid., VII, p. 19
5. Ibid., p. 44; VIII, pp. 48, 262

228. (FIELD BOOK), 1936--. 2 vols. (dated).
Name, address, business of scale or device owner; description of scales, devices; schedule of fees to be charged; number of scales or devices sealed, tested, approved, condemned; number, date of certificate; signature of sealer. Arr. by date of test. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 150 pp. 5⅛ x 12 x 1. Va., town off., first fl., T. H.

XXVII. MODERATOR[1]

Since 1872 a moderator has been elected at each annual town meeting.[2]

One of the first duties of the moderator after the establishment of the town was the appointment of a committee to prepare a history of the events surrounding Holbrook's separation from Randolph.[3] At an adjourned session of the same meeting bylaws were adopted which gave the moderator all of the powers usually provided by law and such others as would be found in Cushing's Manual of Parliamentary Law.[4]

Since 1886 he has appointed committees to pass on town expenditures; this power was formally approved in the bylaws by an amendment of 1927.[5]

The moderator keeps no records.

XXVIII. FENCE VIEWERS[1]

The office of fence viewers was one of the first filled in Holbrook and one which underwent relatively few changes in number or method of election for the first fifty years of the town's history. Three were elected in 1872 to serve for one year.[6] With the exception of 1874, when five were elected by acclamation,[7] there were three elected each year until 1902.[8] From this year to 1916 the number of fence viewers varied from

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, pp. 14, 85; V, p. 152; VI, p. 148; VII, pp. 95, 180; VIII, pp. 49, 273
3. Ibid., I, p. 26
4. Bylaws, art. II, sec. 4, in Annual Reports, 1873
5. Bylaws, art. XXIII, secs. 1, 2, 3, in Annual Reports, 1927
6. Town Records, I, p. 15
7. Ibid., p. 87.
8. Ibid., V, p. 79

two to three;[1] after 1916, however, mention of the office is irregular until 1929.[2] From one to three have been elected annually from 1929 to the present.[3]

The fence viewers keep no records.

XXIX. FIELD DRIVER[4]

The office of field driver was created at the first town meeting in 1872, when six men were elected by acclamation to serve for one year.[5] The number of incumbents and the methods of their selection have varied since 1872. Five were elected by acclamation from 1873 to 1875;[6] in 1876 it was voted to elect one field driver for each highway district, a total of six.[7] In 1877 four were elected by acclamation, and eight were named by this method the following year.[8] In 1879 twelve were elected.[9] The number was as low as four (1880-81) and as high as nine (1883) during the next few years. In 1883 they were appointed by the selectmen instead of being elected.[10] In one year, 1884, the field drivers were also the constables.[11]

From 1889 to 1900 the mention of the office is irregular in the records and reports. Seven were elected to serve as constables and field drivers in 1893,[12] and in 1900 the warrant for the town meeting calls for the election of three to the position.[13] Since 1935 and probably several years prior to that date, one field driver and pound keeper has been named annually.[14]

The field driver keeps no records.

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1. Town Records, V, p. 154; VI, pp. 5, 21
2. Ibid., VI, p. 174 to VIII, p. 76 passim
3. Ibid., VIII, pp. 127, 171, 230, 274
4. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
5. Town Records, I, p. 16 et seq.
6. Ibid., pp. 59, 87, 109
7. Ibid., p. 130
8. Ibid., II, p. 7
9. Ibid., p. 27
10. Ibid., pp. 49, 74, 138
11. Ibid., p. 166
12. Ibid., IV, p. 36
13. Ibid., V, p. 24
14. Annual Reports, 1935, p. 4; 1939, pp. 4, 5

XXX. POUND KEEPER[1]

In 1872 the town accepted chapter 45 of the General Statutes of 1860 restricting the pasturing of cattle and other animals in or near the streets and ways of Holbrook.[2] The following year the appointment of a pound keeper was made by the selectmen for a one-year term.[3] A similar appointment is shown for 1874;[4] in 1877 the office was filled by election.[5] The office appears in the reports and records for some years up to 1909; in this year the annual report shows the field driver performing the duties of both offices.[6] In recent years the office of field driver, pound keeper, and chief of police have been filled by the same man.[7]

This office keeps no permanent records.

XXXI. MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE

Various provisions were made for the observance of Memorial Day in the town previous to 1898, when a regular organization reported on activities in connection with it. In some years the town appropriated sums of money to be turned over th private bodies. The town warrant in 1883 called for consideration on "what action the town will take in the matter of Memorial Day."[8] The following year the sum of $104.23 was paid to the local post of the G.A.R.[9] The amount varied greatly; in 1887 it was $7.80,[10] and in 1890 it was $72.24.[11]

A report was submitted by the Holbrook Memorial Association in 1898 of work it had done.[12] In 1908 this association cited in its report that its purpose was to commemorate the Civil War dead and decorate their graves.[13] The following year the association reported to the meeting in connection with a requested expenditure, that E. E. Holbrook had agreed to pay one half of it.[14]

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 20 et seq.
3. Ibid., I, p. 60
4. Ibid., p. 90
5. Ibid., p. 146
6. Annual Reports, 1909, p. 4
7. Ibid., 1935, p. 5; 1939, p. 5
8. Ibid., 1883, p. 74
9. Ibid., 1884, p. 6
10. Ibid., 1887, p. 5
11. Ibid., 1890, p. 4 et seq.
12. Ibid., 1898, p. 107
13. Ibid., 1908, p. 81
14. Ibid., 1909, p. 77

The association reported in 1916 that it had succeeded in obtaining two brass cannon for the town through the aid of the local congressman.[1] The following year it stated that the organization of other similar bodies in the town would probably take care of the work the association had been doing.[2]

Since 1932 a Memorial Day committee consisting of seven members in addition to the supervisor of deceased soldiers' and sailors' graves has rendered an annual report.[3] No doubt its membership has largely been drawn from the William B. Dalton Post of the American Legion which was given official charge of Memorial Day affairs, without expense to the town in that year.[4] The 1939 annual report shows the Legion Post still conducting the work, and providing volunteer workers for the supervisor of deceased soldiers' and sailors' graves.

229. (ANNUAL REPORT OF MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE), 1899-1917, 1932--.
In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of the Holbrook Memorial Association, 1899-1917; Memorial Day committee, 1932--: Description of exercises, report of decoration of soldiers' graves. Occasionally includes report of Fourth of July celebration.

XXXII. SUPERVISOR OF DECEASED SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' GRAVES[5]

Since 1873 the town has made efforts to care for and decorate the graves of deceased soldiers and sailors. In that year an appropriation of $100 was made for decorations and it was voted to turn the sum over to the quartermaster of the G.A.R. post in the town.[6] In 1883 an appropriation of $104.50 was made.[7]

In the intervening years various methods of attending to the decorating have been employed. A formal report of a superintendent of deceased soldiers' and sailors' graves appeared in 1932 in the annual reports, and has been made each year since.[8] In 1939 the superintendent reported that

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1. Annual Reports, 1916, p. 72
2. Ibid., 1917, p. 79
3. Ibid., 1932, p. 90 to 1939, p. 136
4. Town Records, VII, p. 132
5. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
6. Town Records, I, p. 66
7. Annual Reports, 1884, p. 6
8. Ibid., 1932, p. 90

all work done on the graves was done by volunteer labor from members of the local post of the American Legion.[1]

230. (ANNUAL REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF DECEASED SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' GRAVES), 1932--. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2. Narrative report of volunteer work done by members of local American Legion post, showing number of graves tendered, markers placed, gravestones repaired.

XXXIII. TOWN PHYSICIAN[2]

At the first annual town meeting in 1872 it was voted "to leave the appointment of a town doctor in the hands of the selectmen."[3] A similar procedure was followed in 1892 and 1893 while in 1899, 1900 and 1901 the question of the pay of the town physician was left to the overseers of the poor, who were also the selectmen, indicating that a town physician must have been appointed.[4] In 1906 and 1907 the annual reports list the salaries and names of two town physicians.[5] Since the latter date the only evidence of the appointment is a similar listing of amounts paid to one or more physicians.[6]

XXXIV. MEASURER OF WOOD AND BARK[2]

It was voted at the first town meeting that five persons be chosen by acclamation as measurers of wood and bark.[7] Both the method of election and the number of incumbents varied after the first year. The five measurers were appointed in 1873,[8] and the following year three appointments were made.[9] In 1876 the measurers assumed the duties of the surveyor of lumber.[10] Three were chosen by acclamation in 1877,[11] and five in 1878.[12] The next year it was voted to reelect the previous year's list.[13]

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1. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 136
2. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
3. Town Records, I, p. 17
4. Ibid., IV, pp. 6, 33; V, pp. 11, 34, 57
5. Annual Reports, 1906, p. 20; 1907, p. 23
6. Ibid., 1935, p. 51; 1937, p. 55; 1938, p. 57; 1939, p. 59
7. Town Records, I, p. 16
8. Ibid., p. 56
9. Ibid., p. 90
10. Ibid., p. 130
11. Ibid., p. 146
12. Ibid., II, p. 7
13. Ibid., p. 29

The selectmen appointed two persons to the office in 1883 and one in 1888.[1] Mention of the office is irregular until 1892, when one measurer was appointed who was also a fence viewer.[2] Election by acclamation was employed again in 1898 and 1899,[3] and in 1902 the measurer was also sealer of weights and measures.[4] The office is mentioned through 1916.[5]

No records have been found for this office.

State Archives Relating to Holbrook

These are located in room 420, State House, Boston.

231. (PETITION FOR A SEPARATE PARISH), undated (approx. 1818). 3 sheets.

Petition of Bailey White and 79 others, inhabitants of the eastern part of Randolph, to senate and house of representatives as follows;- "The subscribers beg leave to represent that they with a number of their associates who live in the towns of Randolph and Braintree have found it extremely difficult to attend public worship in consequence of being situated at a great distance from both of the meeting houses in said towns; and the increase of population being such as to render it absolutely necessary that another house for public worship should be erected. They, for the above reasons, have purchased a valuable piece of ground, raised and covered the frame for a large and respectable meeting house and contracted for the same to be finished by the middle of October next. They request leave with those who wish to join them living in the abovesaid towns to be incorporated into a parish by the name of the East Parish in Randolph with all the rights and privileges which are granted to similar institutions."

In house of representatives June 4, 1818, read and referred to committee on the incorporation of Parishes. In senate June 5, 1818, read and concurred. In senate January 18, 1819, read and committed to committee on incorporation of parishes. In house of representatives January 19, 1819, read and concurred. Hdw. 3 pp. 8½ x 11½. Folder marked "acts - 1818, chap. 80."

232. (REMONSTRANCE AGAINST PETITION FOR A SEPARATE PARISH), Jan. 25, 1819. 1 sheet.

Remonstrance of Barnabas Clark, Seth and Royal Turner, Luther and Isaac Thayer, David Burrill, John King, Ebenezer Alden, Joseph Hunt, committee appointed by Rev. Thaddius Pomeroy's parish in Randolph to senate and house of representatives against petition of Bailey White praying for a

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1. Town Records, III, p. 75
2. Ibid., IV, p. 9
3. Ibid., pp. 70, 86
4. Ibid., V, p. 86
5. Ibid., VI, p. 179

new religious society in Randolph: "Sundry subscribers, Barnabus Clark and others, being a committee appointed by the Rev. Thaddius Pomeroy's parish in Randolph to advise and assist our agent Samuel Bass in opposing the petition of Bailey White and others praying for the establishment of a new religious society in said Randolph humbly remonstrate against said petition. For in addition to the many evils we have apprehended from their encroaching upon our rights by seceding from their own recent engagements, we are now threatened with a new Baptist Meeting House within about half a mile of ours and measures are actually in opperation for its erection which is calculated by its location to cut off and decoy away another numerous and respectable branch of our society." Things being as they are they can not under any condition consent to the division and therefore wish that any further action on this matter be deferred and that measures may be adopted for the mutual interests of both parties or "until time shall more fully prove the expediency of setting them off."

In house of representatives Jan. 26, 1819, read and committed to the committee on the incorporation of parishes. In senate Jan. 26, 1819, read and concurred. Hdw. 1 p. 9 x 16. Folder marked "acts - 1818, chap. 80."

233. (REMONSTRANCE AGAINST PETITION FOR A SEPARATE PARISH), Jan. 27, 1819. 2 sheets.

Remonstrance of Gideon L. Thayer, Nathaniel Thayer, 2nd, Asa French, James Holbrook and Eben Thayer (in behalf of all the agents), inhabitants of the First Parish in ancient town of Braintree against Bailey White's petition to incorporate a large portion of their parish with part of town of Randolph, to senate and house of representatives. Gideon L. Thayer and others, inhabitants of the first parish in Braintree, have been informed that a petition is before the senate and house of representatives signed by Bailey White and others, inhabitants of east parish of Randolph asking the legislature to incorporate a large portion of their parish with a part of the town of Randolph into a separate parish. If the "applicants" wish to have a territorial line "doubts may arise in your Honor's minds and they do exist in the minds of your memoralists, of the right under the constitution of consigning to the control and taxation of a newly formed society the property of any individual member belonging to one long established and from which he has no wish to be severed, which of necessity will be the case if any portion should be incorporated from our parish and your memoralist(s) do not anticipate any unconstitutional provisions depriving them of their acknowledged right to elect and support their own religious teachers, but the wisdom of our government having made it the duty of all in some way to contribute to the support of religious instructors, your memoralist(s) cannot dread that under any act of this legislature a part of their parish shall be hereafter holden to fulfill the engagements made and the debts contracted by the whole. Our parish is greatly in debt and the contracts still remain unrescinded. If then, as we believe, rights and duties are reciprocal and under our happy frame of government the obligations of contracts remain sacred will your Honors leave upon the shoulders of a part, the burthens, which all did once voluntarily assume?" With a very small parish at first, etc., together with the secession of a number of the Episcopalians and Baptists their "burthens were grievous". If one fifth of what remains is taken

away "Your Honors will have ruined our parish, exiled our pastor and that without having made a new parish capable of maintaining a learned teacher of piety religion and morality and your memoralists further aver that the interests of religion will not be promoted by allowing any divisions." In view of the disastrous consequences which will necessarily follow to both memoralists and petitioners alike in case petition is granted, the parish by their agents, Gideon L. Thayer and others "respectfully but firmly remonstrate against the allowance of said petition and pray the same maybe allowed to be withdrawn."

In house of representatives Jan. 29, 1819, read and committed to the committee on the incorporation of parishes. In senate Jan. 30, 1819, read and concurred. Hdw. 4 pp. 8 x 11½. Folder marked "Acts of 1818, chap. 80."

234. (REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON PETITION OF BAILEY WHITE AND OTHERS), Jan. 30, 1819. 1 sheet.

Report of joint committee of both houses signed by H. Cleveland, chairman, to senate and house of representatives to whom was referred petition of Bailey White and others asking to be incorporated by name of "East Parish" in Randolph stating that the committee have had the petition under consideration and ask leave to report that petition be so far granted, that the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill for that purpose.

Read and accepted in senate January 30, 1819. Read and concurred in house of representatives February 4, 1819. Hdw. 1 p. 8½ x 12. Folder marked "Acts - 1818, chap. 80."

235. (PETITION FOR INCORPORATION OF HOLBROOK AS A TOWN), Dec. 6, 1871. 2 sheets.

Petition of E. N. Holbrook and 14 others, inhabitants of Randolph, praying that so much or substantially so much of the territory of said town as lies east of the Old Colony and Newport Railroad Company may be set off from said Randolph and incorporated as a new town under such name as the legislature may deem proper. Presented in senate, January 11, 1872 by Mr. Carpenter and referred to committee on towns; concurred in house of representatives, January 12, 1872. December 7, 1871, treasurer of town of Randolph, W. A. Alden, and one of the selectmen of said town, Horatio B. Alden, acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the foregoing petition. December 7, 1871, certification by Washington N. French, deputy sheriff, that on said date he served the Holbrook petition on inhabitants of town of Randolph by giving an attested copy to treasurer and one of the selectmen of said town of Randolph as required. December 6, 1871, Oliver Warner, Secretary of the Commonwealth, approved the publication of said petition in the Norfolk County Register. Hdw. 2 pp. 8 x 10. Folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61."

236. (REMONSTRANCE AGAINST DIVISION), Jan. 16, 1872. 1 sheet.

Seth Turner and 704 inhabitants of town of Randolph believing that their corporate and material interests will be lastingly injured by any division of the town remonstrate against the division petition of E. N. Holbrook and others and pray that their remonstrance may be considered.

Presented in senate, January 15, 1872, by Mr. Humphrey and referred to committee on towns; concurred in house of representatives, January 16, 1872. Hdw. 1 p. 8½ x 13. Folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61."

237. (REMONSTRANCE AGAINST DIVISION), Jan. 25, 1872. 1 sheet.
N. B. Faxon and 31 others, inhabitants of East Randolph, believing that their corporate and material interests will be lastingly injured by any division of the town remonstrate against the division petitioned for by E. N. Holbrook and others and pray that their remonstrance may be considered. Presented in senate, January 24, 1872, by Mr. Carpenter and referred to committee on towns; concurred in house of representatives, January 25, 1872. Hdw. 1 p. 8½ x 14. Folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61."

238. (REQUEST THAT PETITION BY GRANTED AND TOWN BE NAMED HOLBROOK), Jan. 29, 1872. 1 sheet.
S. A. Vining and 290 others, inhabitants of town of Randolph and residents of the section lying east of the Old Colony and Newport Railroad Company, pray that the petition of E. N. Holbrook and others to set off the above mentioned section and to incorporate it as a new town may be granted and further pray that the said town may take the name of Holbrook. Presented in senate, January 27, 1872, by Mr. Carpenter and referred to committee on towns; concurred in house of representatives, January 29, 1872. Hdw. 1 p. 7½ x 18, in folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61."

239. (REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TOWNS), Feb. 8, 1872. 1 sheet.
Committee on towns to whom was referred the petition of E. N. Holbrook and others to set off a portion of the territory of Randolph and to incorporate the same as a new town, have considered the matter and report the accompanying bill. Approved by the following members of the committee:- George A. Torrey, D. T. Woodwell, George Going, George T. Slocumb, James H. Durgin. Dissented from by:- S. D. Quigley, C. H. Fiske. Hdw. 1 p. 7½ x 9½. Folder marked "Acts of 1872, chap. 61."

Part C - Defunct Offices

XXXV. SURVEYOR OF LUMBER[1]

The office of surveyor of lumber appears in the minutes of the first town meeting in 1872, when one was chosen by acclamation.[2] In 1876 the duties of the office were assumed by the measurers of wood and bark.[3]

No records have been found for this office.

XXXVI. PUBLIC WEIGHER[1]

This office appears once in the town records, in 1898, when one public weigher was appointed by the selectmen.[4] There is no further record of an appointment.

No records have been found for this office.

XXXVII. WEIGHER OF ICE[1]

This office appears in the town records during one year, 1916, when one incumbent was appointed to serve. The selectmen made the appointment.[5] Some of the duties of the office have been performed in later years by the sealer of weights and measures, who now inspects the licenses of peddlers.[6]

No records have been found for this office.

XXXVIII. SUPERINTENDENT OF TRAMPS[1]

The town made an effort to cope with the problem of the large numbers of itinerants passing through it, when in 1874 the selectmen were empowered

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see City and Town Government in Massachusetts.
2. Town Records, I, p. 16
3. Ibid., p. 130
4. Ibid., IV, p. 181
5. Ibid., V, p. 179
6. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 144

to appoint one man to the office of superintendent of tramps.[1] The office was filled continuously until 1878, when the incumbent refused reappointment and no other incumbent could be obtained.[2] The care of the tramps was then let out to private bidders, the lowest being at the rate of 16 2/3 cents per tramp per day.[3] This method of caring for tramps proved unsatisfactory, however, and on April 5th, 1880, it was voted that the supervision of tramps be placed in the hands of the selectmen.[4]

No records have been found for this office.

XXXIX. CITIZENS' LAW AND ORDER LEAGUE OF HOLBROOK

In addition to temporary committees appointed from time to time at town meetings, Holbrook had several committees of a semi-permanent nature, whose work was often aided or supported by town funds and whose activities covered fields usually delegated in other towns to elected or appointed officials.

One of these was the Citizens' Law and Order League of Holbrook. The town had, according to the league, "come into existence in 1872, as we believe, without a single fully established rum shop within its borders."[5] By 1882, however, it was reported that there were nine "rum shops" in town, and the following year $300 had been appropriated and given to the Holbrook Temperance Society in an effort to stamp them out.[6] In 1884 a group of citizens appeared before the town meeting and expressed the belief that "this curse can be brought under subjection." A sum was given to it.[7] As the law and order league this group spent $185 in counsel fees during its first year.[8] Its banner year appears to have been 1887, when it reported assisting in 14 raids, six seizures, and having spent $268 out of its appropriation.[9]

240. (ANNUAL REPORT OF LAW AND ORDER LEAGUE), 1885-91. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
Narrative report of aims and activities in suppressing sale of liquor;

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1. Town Records, I, p. 90
2. Ibid., II, p. 10
3. Idem
4. Ibid., p. 47
5. Annual Reports, 1884, p. 72
6. Ibid., 1883, p. 6
7. Ibid., 1884, p. 6; Town Records, II, p. 163
8. Annual Reports, 1884, pp. 73, 74
9. Ibid., 1887, pp. 58, 59

financial table showing amount of town appropriation, amount of expenditure for office supplies, counsel and investigators' fees.

XL. COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL IMPROVEMENT

In an effort to maintain the rate of industrial growth that had marked the first years of the town's corporate existence, the moderator was empowered in 1895 to appoint a committee of seven persons to induce new businesses to establish in Holbrook. An appropriation was made that year to the Citizens Improvement Company.[1] At the next annual meeting the committee made a report of its progress and a new appropriation of $25 for the work was made.[2] In 1900 the committee, signing itself the industrial development committee, reported that it was cooperating with committees from other towns in an effort to interest the state and federal governments in a proposed canal from the Fore River to Fall River, in the belief that this would stimulate manufactures and commerce.[3] It was still working on this project in 1905, when it was resolved by the March meeting that "We, the citizens of Holbrook . . . appreciating the commanding position our Commonwealth has hitherto held in industrial . . . affairs, . . . instruct our representative in the General Court and the town committee for industrial improvement to use all honorable means to secure the incorporation of the New York, Brockton, and Boston Canal. . ."[4]

In 1906 the committee reported to the town meeting that a factory and land, which it had proved impossible to let, had been deeded to the town for a public park.[5] For several years it urged the installation of street lights, and reported in 1911 that "after many years of stressing the benefits of street lights, we are enjoying to a limited degree the comfort of being able to see where to step at night."[6]

The old committee was discharged at the annual meeting in 1912 and a new committee of five members appointed by the selectmen.[7] No further record of appointment has been found.

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1. Town Records, IV, p. 95
2. Ibid., p. 116
3. Annual Reports, 1900, pp. 67, 68
4. Town Records, V, p. 141
5. Annual Reports, 1906, p. 106
6. Ibid., 1911, pp. 71, 72
7. Town Records, VI, p. 78

241. (ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL IMPROVEMENT), 1895-1912. In Holbrook Town Reports, entry 2.
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1. The State printers, since 1805, have been: Young and Minns, 1805-1811; Adams, Rhoades and Co., 1812; Benjamin Russell, 1812-1824; True and Greene, 1825-1827; Dutton and Wentworth, 1828-1851; White and Potter, 1852-1853; William White, 1854-1862; Wright and Potter, 1863-1876; Rand, Avery and Co., 1877-1882; Wright and Potter, 1883 to date.

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Abstract and Index of the Records of the Inferiour Court of Pleas (Suffolk County Court) Held at Boston, 1680-1698, (iii, 224 pp., mim., 1940).

American Portraits, 1620-1825, Found in Massachusetts, 2 vols., (iv, 254 pp. and 318 pp., mult. dupl., May, 1939).

Brief History of the Town of Braintree in Massachusetts, 1640-1940, compiled and written for the Tercentenary Committee, Marion Sophia Arnold, ed., (64 pp., Boston, Thomas Todd Co., 1940).

Calendar of the General Henry Knox Papers in the Boston Public Library, (ii, 19 pp., mult. dupl., May, 1939).

Calendar of the Letters of Charles Robert Darwin to Asa Gray, (vii, 148 pp. mult. dupl., December, 1939).

Calendar of the Ryder Collection of Confederate Archives at Tufts College, (v, 165 pp., mim., 1940).

Diary and Journal, 1755-1807, of Seth Metcalf, (iii, 31 pp., mult. dupl., October, 1939).

Description of the Manuscript Collections of the Massachusetts Diocesan Library, (ii, 81 pp., mult. dupl., February, 1939).

Guide to Manuscript Depositories in Massachusetts, (ii, 160 pp., mim., September, 1939).

Index to the Hampshire Gazette, 1786-1937, 3 vols., (vii, 217, 213, and 295 pp., mim., May, 1939.)

Index to the Proclamations of Massachusetts, 1620-1936, 2 vols., (xvii, 200 and 153 pp., mim., April, 1937).

Inventory to the County Archives of Massachusetts, No. 5, Essex County, (ii, 370 pp. mim., December, 1937).

Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Massachusetts, (Series)
No. 6 Franklin County
Vol. I Ashfield, (ii, 98 pp. mim., 1940).
Vol. III Buckland, (ii, 74 pp. mim., 1940).

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No. 7 Hampden County

Vol. V Chicopee, (xi, 296 pp. mult. dupl., and mim., October, 1939).

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Vol. IV Brookline, (v, 348 pp. mult. dupl., 1940).
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No. 13 Suffolk County

Vol. I, Part 5 Boston, (v, 356 pp. mult. dupl., 1940).

No. 14 Worcester County

Vol. III Auburn, (iii, 89 pp. mim. February, 1940).
Vol. IV Barre, (iii, 132 pp mim. 1940).

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